The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, opposite Postoffice.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 2 cents; delivered by carriers (per week) 13 cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $10 00, postage pre-paid.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 18, 1876. NO. 140.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—
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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Bill Introduced to Facilitate Appeals to Supreme Court.

Tramp Bill Recalled from the House.

Final Passage of Bill Limiting Prosecutions for Forgery.

The House Discusses the Bill to Make Divorces Easier.

Miners' Safety Bill Passed Second Reading.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 17, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock, Lieutenant Governor Latta in the Chair.

The following petitions were offered: Praying for the adoption of resolutions instructing our Senators and requesting our members of Congress to vote for the bill now before Congress asking Government aid in the construction of the Texas Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Clarke—Eight petitions against the repeal of the Prohibitory License law.

Bills Reported Affirmatively—Amending the penal laws, defining and providing for the punishment of the offense of unlawfully obtaining the key or means of opening any bank vault, safe or depository.

Act to facilitate the hearing of appeals and writs of error, by imposing the costs upon the parties, requiring security to be given therefor and requiring the Supreme Court to hold additional terms. With amendments.

Act requiring the statements of banks and banking companies, made to the Auditor General, to be published.

Bills Introduced—Act authorizing the supervisors of two different townships in the State to collect additional road tax on ore beds.

Act to compensate counsel assigned by the court to defend persons charged with felony in the courts of the State, providing that the amount shall not exceed fifteen dollars.

A supplementary act to the road laws, requiring compensation to be given, before new roads are opened, to the owners of the land through which the road passes.

Act to authorize the sale of goods, merchandise from wagons and other vehicles at wholesale to dealers.

Act regulating the compensation of newspapers for publishing the mercantile appraisers' lists in the several counties of the State, providing that hereafter all papers publishing the mercantile appraisers' lists shall be allowed a sum not exceeding their published rates, and that the sum so paid shall be paid by the Auditor General.

Mr. Stanton offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the House of Representatives be requested to return to the Senate the bill to define and suppress vagrancy. The resolution was agreed to.

Bills on Third Reading—Act to regulate the sale of baled hay, &c., in the Commonwealth. Passed.

Act to repeal section four of an act to incorporate the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society. Postponed.

Act declaratory of the true intent of section sixty-six of the act to consolidate, revise and amend the penal laws of the Commonwealth. Recommitted, on motion of Mr. Jones.

Supplement to the act relating to executors and administrators, extending the provisions of said act to all sales of real estate made by order of the Orphans' Court. Passed.

Act defining the limitation in prosecutions for forgery. Passed.

Bills on Second Reading—Act to provide for the erection of a poor house and for the support of the poor in the several counties of the Commonwealth. The bill was so amended as to let the question of the erection of each building to be decided by the vote of the county in which the building is proposed to be erected.

An act for the incorporation and regulation of banks of discount and deposit. Postponed. The above act prohibits banks from paying any interest on deposits.

Supplement to the act relating to the settlement of public accounts, authorizing the transfer of accounts from one corporation to another, in certain cases. Agreed to.

The Governor sent the following nomination to the Senate: Samuel Sebring, to be Justice of the Peace for the borough of Indiana, county of Indiana, until thirty days after the next election in said borough.

James E. Rogers, of Pittsburgh, and Jas. E. Sayers, of Waynesburg, were confirmed Notaries Public.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at 10 A. M.

Bills on Second Reading—Act providing means for securing the health and safety of persons employed in the bituminous coal mines of Pennsylvania. The bill was read by sections. A number of amendments, perfecting it, were added by Mr. Jackson, who eloquently advocated the cause of the workingmen employed in mines. Passed as amended.

Further supplement to the act entitled "An act concerning divorces," approved the 13th day of March, 1815. Called up by Mr. Wolfe. The bill allows courts to grant divorces in any case where either of the parties shall have been convicted of forgery or perjury and received sentenced for any term exceeding two years.

Mr. Wolfe read the divorce laws of other States of the Union and advocated the passage of the bill.

Mr. Gunster spoke forcibly against the bill, claiming that no necessity existed in favor had been advanced, excepting the shame of other States, and pointed to the effect of pernicious laws for divorce on other countries in other times, advocating, in conclusion, the repeal of the old, instead of the enactment of new divorce laws.

Mr. Leach favored the bill in a lengthy speech, abounding in Scriptural references.

Mr. Hays opposed the bill, claiming that it was gotten up to meet some special case. Pending the discussion of the bill, the House adjourned.

BIG INDIAN STORY.

Sioux, Cheyennes and Arrapahoes Said to be Preparing for War on an Extensive Scale.

OMAHA, February 17.—I have the most competent and reliable official authority for the statement that the Sioux, Cheyennes and Arrapahoe Indians have been and are yet making the most extensive preparations possible for an outbreak in a very few weeks. They have been purchasing a quantity of ammunition and arms wherever they could get them, going as far south as the Indian Territory for this purpose. It has been known for some time that the best fighting men had deserted the agencies and are roving in the Big Horn, Powder river and Tongue river countries, concentrating and arranging their forces for this war. There are at the agencies and on the reservations only those who are too infirm and disabled to be of use, and the families of those warriors who have left. So far as is known, the Indians will likely strike the frontier settlements, unless something is promptly done, and will do terrible work before they can be overpowered.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-day.—Falling barometer, southwest to southeast winds, warmer and partly cloudy weather.

The steamer Java, from Liverpool, has arrived at New York.

Richards Brothers' large mill and elevator, at Champaign, Ills., was burned yesterday. Loss about $47,000; insurance $22,000.

Early yesterday morning the fire which broke out Wednesday evening, at Rutland, Vt., was got under control. The entire loss is estimated at $100,000. The following are the insurances so far as obtained: Bates House $40,000, and $18,000 on furniture; George W. Hilard $6,000; Charles S. Mason $5,500; A. O. Cunningham $4,000; A. C. Bates & Son $7,000; A. W. Higgins $11,500; Tuttle & Co. $10,000.

Sunday evening a destructive wind storm passed through Washington county, Indiana, unroofing, as far as heard from, six barns, demolishing seven dwellings, besides numerous outbuildings. The wife and two children of Thomas Nicholson, farmer, received severe injuries by the overturning of his house. Joel Denny lost nearly 1,000 fruit trees. Some of the farmers suffered great loss in live stock. The money value of the property destroyed is said to be very large.

BABCOCK'S TRIAL.

Witnesses to Defendant's Reputation.

Curious Testimony Concerning the Twin Letters Mailed to Babcock and Avery.

ST. LOUIS, February 17.—Upon the resumption of the trial of General Babcock this morning, in the United States Circuit Court, a number of witnesses were put upon the stand to testify to the character of the defendant.

General Sherman testified: I am General of the Army of the United States. I have known General O. E. Babcock intimately; I have known him since 1861, but my better knowledge of him dates from the time he brought me a dispatch at Savannah from Gen. Grant; since then I have known him almost constantly. His reputation has been very good; I never heard it questioned until these troubles. I have seen General Babcock a hundred times in the room in the Executive Mansion next to the President's room; it might be called the ante room. Those who go to see the President see General Babcock first, and perhaps accomplish the object of the visit without seeing the President at all; Gen. Babcock also opens the letters, distributes them, and answers all except the most important; he is a kind of intermediate between the people and the President.

Testimony as to good character was also given by General Jas. H. Simpson, of the Corps of Engineers; General W. S. Harney, Capt. L. S. Babbitt, commanding the St. Louis Arsenal; General S. B. Sturgis, in command of this post, and Hon. E. A. Borie, ex-Secretary of the Navy.

At this point ex-Governor Fletcher was put upon the stand and identified several letters from Babcock to Joyce as those placed in his possession a few weeks ago by Mrs. Joyce. Only one of these letters was read at this stage of the trial. It was dated March 17, 1874, and directed to Joyce in San Francisco. It is in reply to Joyce's message to Babcock, "tell Douglass to call off the scandal hounds that blacken the memory of Ford and his friends." General Babcock informs Joyce that there are no charges against Ford, and tells him that he believed he [Joyce] was sent to San Francisco because of his high standing with the Commissioner.

Further testimony was introduced as to defendant's reputation, and two letters were introduced from Deputy Commissioner Rogers to McDonald, dated March 3 and March 22, 1875, to show that at so late a date there was no suspicion at the Department against McDonald. The letters both asked favors for Rogers.

Three gentlemen connected with the postoffice in this city testified that it was unsafe to deposit valuables in the street letter boxes, and that the public had been repeatedly warned against so doing.

The defense then introduced several letters from Joyce to Babcock, written at different times from 1870 to 1873. Some of them incorporated editorials written by Joyce and published in the St. Joseph (Mo.) *Herald* on the San Domingo affair, and were designed to show his zeal in political matters. Another, from Little Rock, Arkansas, described the re-election of Clayton Powell as United States Senator, and stated that this election would carry Arkansas for Grant. Another inclosed a resolution to the memory of Charles W. Ford, adopted at a public meeting here, soon after that gentleman's death. Answers to these letters were then produced and read, and also two or three others. All of these letters are of a social character and indicate that the writers of them were on friendly terms, but they contain no allusions whatever to ring matters or anything connected with revenue affairs.

At this point the Court ruled on the three dispatches offered by the prosecution and held under advisement. The following was admitted:

ST. LOUIS, December 31, 1874.

General O. E. Babcock—Has Secretary or Commissioner ordered anybody here? [Signed] J.

The following two were ruled out:

WASHINGTON, December 5, 1874.

John A. Joyce, St. Louis—Cannot hear that anyone has gone or is going. [Signed] O. E. BABCOCK.

ST. LOUIS, April 1, 1875.

General O. E. Babcock, Washington—Tell Mac to see Parker, of Colorado, and telegraph Commissioner. Crush out St. Louis enemies. [Signed] GRIT.

Regarding the last dispatch, the Court said that, although it was not admitted to be in the handwriting of Joyce and that it had been sent over the wires, there was no proof that the defendant had received it, or if he had received it, that he knew from whom it came, and there was no proof that it was ever answered.

James Magill, a letter carrier, then testified, in the latter part of February, 1875, I was coming down Pine street, near Fifth. Mr. Joyce accosted me and said there were two letters in the street letter box which he wished to get back. He pointed to the box on the south-west corner of Fifth and Pine. I asked Col. Joyce to describe the letters before I opened the box. He said there was one addressed to W. Avery, Washington, D. C., and marked "personal" in the corner, and the other was to G. B. Bidwell, Washington, D. C., also marked "personal." I opened the box, although it was off my district, and searched among the letters. I found the two and handed them to Colonel Joyce.

Mr. Storrs—Did you get a receipt?

Witness—No, sir.

Mr. Storrs—Is it not customary?

Witness—Yes, it is. I said, "Look here, Col. I want a receipt; if you want to put them in the mail again, I will go with you and see it done." He said, "Oh! that's all right, hand me it" (or something like that) "it's only a joke."

Mr. Storrs—Is it frequent to give letters back?

Witness—No, sir.

Mr. Storrs—Is you sometimes do it?

Witness—On a business route it is frequent; that is, letters are put in and the parties forget the inclosure, or something like that, and they are returned to them.

Mr. Storrs—Did you report the matter to the postoffice?

Witness—No, sir.

Mr. Storrs—Why?

Witness—Well, I thought it was so frivolous there wasn't any need of saying anything about it.

Mr. Storrs—Did you usually report?

Witness—I usually carried blanks in my satchel, which I had given me to write down letters back, and then I compared the writing.

Mr. Storrs—How did you happen to remember the time this occurred?

Witness—I was house hunting about that time; I had been looking around four or five days for a house; I had just come to the Polytechnic looking for a man who I heard had a house; I was on my way down. Another reason is connection: it was my day to collect for seven other carriers.

Cross-examination—This witness had been mail carrier five years; never gave letters to Colonel Joyce at any other time; it was a frequent thing to return letters to business routes; recollected the circumstances particularly, because it was off his beat; had opened boxes frequently on business streets and returned letters, but could not recollect the names of any persons for whom he had done it. When pressed very hard, witness said he had returned a letter to G. W. Fisback; had returned them to many business houses on Main street, but couldn't swear to any particular one firm. He was repeatedly pressed to recollect the name of anybody else for whom he had taken letters out of the boxes, but he could not remember one. He carried blank receipts; had receipts with him when he gave the letters to Joyce, but Joyce refused to give him a receipt. It occurred on the last day of February, 1875, about 1 P. M. Did not tell the postmaster about the matter, nor any one else about the affair, mentioned the matter first last Sunday night, to his wife; had been reading in the papers the testimony of Everest, about putting the letters into the letter box, and recollected that he had given Joyce just such letters; ruminated over the matter a while and then told his wife; the next evening, Sunday, after going off duty, went to the Democratic Club, and General Babcock, who sent him to Judge Porter, to whom he told his story. He gave full details of the matter to no one but Mr. Storrs and Judge Porter, outside of his own family and one lawyer. Told no one about it before he went to the Lindell Hotel; he consulted with no one but his wife. He repeated the substance of letters given to Joyce, as "General O. E. Babcock" and "Col. W. O. Avery." Never would not admit that he had talked about the matter to anybody, except some letter carriers at the postoffice, today. Col. Dyer pressed him very hard, but he would not acknowledge that he had any intercourse or conversation with any other than those mentioned above. The witness then went into a long cross-examination as to questions since he had lived in the city, but gave nothing more bearing on the case. It is understood the prosecution will offer testimony in rebuttal of this evidence to-morrow.

Mr. Storrs then read to the deposition of the President, which was produced by the Clerk and read by Judge Porter.

After the reading of the deposition, Mr. Storrs offered the recommendations in favor of the appointment of Gen. McDonald as Supervisor of this district, but the Court ruled them out and the defense closed their case and adjourned.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Northampton Bank Robbery.

NORTHAMPTON, MASS., February 17.—The authorities have redoubled the special police force guarding the roads leading into the town, believing that the bulk of the securities stolen from the bank are still concealed there. Search is being made for them and, if it fails, negotiations will be entered into with the robbers, they to return the securities and retain the $12,000 cash and be guaranteed immunity from prosecution.

Ohio Legislature.

COLUMBUS, February 17.—In the House, this morning, the bill to require railroad companies to erect depots at all stations of two thousand inhabitants and upwards was defeated—sixty to twenty-six. In the Senate, a bill was introduced to materially amend the present common school laws. Among other things, the bill proposes county superintendents, abolishes sub-school districts and the present boards of examiners.

In the House bills were passed making it a misdemeanor to throw any coal dirt or coal tar into any streams, ponds or lakes, or to deposit the same on the banks of any stream or ponds; to make it a felony to send a letter or package with intent to obtain property and money fraudently, and allow suit to be brought either at the place where the letter is received or sent.

In the Senate, G. Delano was confirmed as Commissioner of Railroads and Telegraphs. A bill was introduced to exempt four and one-half per cent. of the reserve fund of life insurance companies from taxation. A resolution was adopted instructing the State Commissioner of Railroads to use his whole power to prevent three or four monte men and pickpockets from plying their vocation on Ohio railroads, and to ask for further legislation if necessary.

The prominent citizens of Columbus gave an elegant reception to the General Assembly and State officers this evening at the new City Hall.

A convention of the nurserymen of America has been called to meet in Chicago the second Wednesday in June.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

SPEAKER KERR'S ILL HEALTH.

Fears that He will not be Able to Resume the Chair.

Cox Elected Speaker Pro Tempore.

Steamboat Bill Referred to a Sub-Committee.

Sheridan Before the House Military Committee.

The President Knows Nothing of Schenck's Resignation.

ADMIRER OF WILKES BOOTH FOUND IN THE TREASURY.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 17, 1876.

The Steamboat Bill.

The Steamboat bill was taken up in the Senate Committee on Commerce to-day, and referred to a sub-committee, of which Mr. Boutwell is the Chairman. This gentleman, aided by Messrs. Buckingham and Conkling, were the means of defeating a similar bill in the committee last session. The sub-committee will enter upon the consideration of the bill at once.

Speaker Pro Tempore Appointed.

At a conference of leading Democrats this morning, the subject of a Speaker *pro tem*. was considered. Randall, who was present, was urged to accept the office, but declined, giving as a reason that he was now familiar with the duties of Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and would prefer to remain in that position. He suggested the name of Judge Cox, which was agreed to, and Mr. Randall was designated to nominate that gentleman. The point of order whether the Speaker *pro tem*. should be sworn caused the Democrats in the House no little suspicion, as they feared another trap was being set for them by Blaine, Garfield and Hewitt. The House was not disposed to let their control go. It was stated in conversation that, should Kerr die, to have been sworn in would make Cox Speaker in fact, wh'ch they wished to prevent, as Mr. Cox is inclined to be erratic and hasty in his views of dignity sometimes.

State of Mr. Kerr's Health.

The friends of Mr. Kerr express fears that he will not again preside over the House. He will return here in a few days, after consulting with his physician in New York, and will then, it is said, ask a further leave of absence to enable him to visit the South for his health.

Readjustment of Revenue Force.

Should the reduction of gaugers and storekeepers of internal revenue pass, the Commissioner will have the authority to adjust the force in districts as he may think best for the service.

Sheridan Before the Military Committee.

Lieutenant General Sheridan to-day, before the House Military Committee, showed that by the transfer of the Indian management to the War Department there could be a saving of expenses in the consolidation and abolition of military posts. He opposed the army reduction, showing that the existing force is inadequate to the demands of the service.

Gone to Meet Hambleton.

A charge made against Charles Wilson, a New Hampshire Democrat and a clerk in the Treasury Department, that he had expressed approval of the assassination of President Lincoln, having been brought to the attention of the Secretary, an investigation was ordered. The witnesses were examined to-day, the testimony showing that Wilson, who considers the fact substantiated. Mr. Wilson will have to join Hambleton in his retirement.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 17, 1876.

PROGRESS OF APPROPRIATION BILLS.

The Postoffice appropriation bill will be reported next Monday. The appropriation will be considerably below the estimates. The Legislative, Executive and Judicial appropriation bill will probably be reported on Tuesday. They follow the general principle of reducing the force twenty per cent., and salaries ten per cent. The House will take a recess next Friday and took up the Military Academy bill. The clause reducing the pay and allowances of cadets, was concurred in. The indications are that the bill will be reported to the Senate without material alteration.

MINISTER SCHENCK'S RESIGNATION.

No information has been received by the President confirming the reported resignation of Minister Schenck. There is no doubt that telegraphic correspondence has been pending for some days between the Department of State and Minister Schenck concerning his probable resignation.

THE STEAMER DISPATCH.

There is the best authority for stating that the steamer Dispatch, which has been reported by telegrams from this city as being prepared here to go to sea with sealed orders, supposed to have some connection with Cuban matters, will not depart with sealed orders. She is still at the Washington Navy Yard, being put in readiness for sea service.

NO NECESSITY FOR A NEW MINT.

Dr. Linderman has informed the House Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures that he sees no necessity at present for the establishing of a new mint in the West.

A WEEKLY LIST OF UNITED STATES PATENTS

issued to the inventors of Pennsylvania and Ohio, for the week ending February 15, 1876. Reported by telegraph expressly for the COMMERCIAL, by A. H. Evans & Co., Patent Solicitors, May Building, Washington, D. C.:

PENNSYLVANIA.

H. M. Engle, Marietta—Hoe.
J. M. Woolen, Scottdale—Joiner covering.
L. Bedford, Allegheny—Joiner covering.
M. F. Sallade, Philadelphia—Plaiting machine.
H. Hawson, Philadelphia—Chair.
J. F. Hill, Philadelphia—Button hole cutter.
L. Geiger, Reading—Pumping wagon.
J. R. Houk and H. E. Fegan, Williamsport—Swing.
C. A. Goude, Philadelphia—Spring bed.
H. Disston, Philadelphia—Saw handle.
S. T. Gates, Philadelphia—Boot and shoe machine.
H. A. Kroberger, Philadelphia—Glossing coffee.
W. H. Fisher, Selins Grove—Skate sharpener.
D. Manley, Franklin—Brick machine.
J. D. Patton, Trevorton—Gas regulator.
W. D. Herschel, Philadelphia—Sowing machine.
G. B. Polen, Philadelphia—Printers' quoin.
A. M. Steele, Oil City—Guard for oil tanks.
W. S. Sidwell, Chambersburg—Brick kiln furnace.
H. Davis, Erie—Steam cooker.
J. Hayden, Philadelphia—Drawers.
A. Heald, Philadelphia—Loom.
E. Scheppers, Philadelphia—Fabrics.
E. T. Starr, Philadelphia—Dental engine.
C. A. Teal, Philadelphia—Bending metal plate.
Design.—S. H. Clark, Philadelphia—Badge.
R. B. Esler, Philadelphia—Watch dial.
Trade Mark.—J. F. Benton, Freedom—Mineral oil.
Wallover Oil Company, Smith's Ferry—Oil.
J. Goebert, Philadelphia—Cigars and tobacco.

OHIO.

H. Warwig, Cincinnati—Faweet.
J. A. Wyeth, Cincinnati—Bone cleaner.
J. Gwynn, Tiffin—Chain pump bucket.
H. C. F. Sohn, Cleveland—Painting.
J. S. Rowland, Sencaville—Lifting jack.
A. D. Lee, Scio—Flower pots and vases.
G. Rogers, Mt. Vernon—Traction wheel.
D. Leib, Rich Hill—Millstone staff.
D. Leib, Rich Hill—Flour mills.
E. P. Shaw, Channingtenter—Hedge fastener.
M. Kafele, Olmsted—Fence.
J. Hinkley, Norwalk—Knitting machine.
L. M. Hossen, Cincinnati—Spark conveyor.
J. J. Markel, Nankin—Whip socket.
J. M. Jones, Cincinnati—Valve.
G. H. Morgan, Uhrichsville—Type writing.
G. P. Roberts, Norwalk—Piano attachment.
J. Ashcroft, Frazeysburg—Corn planter.
S. E. Bauder, Birmingham—Croquet mallet.
M. H. Crane, Cincinnati—Steam boiler.
F. G. Merriam, Akron—Pipes.
W. W. Baldwin, Cleveland—Stove.
J. E. Baxter, J. D. Joslin, N. E. Warren, F. L. Chamberlain and L. M. McClymond, Cleveland—Manufacture of rubber belting.
Designs.—C. D. Marsh, Cincinnati—Summer chariot.
Trade Mark—Schultz & Co., Zanesville—soap.
White Manufacturing Company, Cleveland—Sewing machine.

The charge that it is returning to the Republican fold is thus answered by the Cincinnati *Commercial*: "We beg to say that we are not falling into the Republican ranks. We are opposed to the present tendencies of the Democratic party. We prefer gold to rags, and the United States to the Southern Confederacy. One has to make a choice of evils when the only chance is to co-operate with the two organizations that absorb the politicians; and we do not fall into the ranks of a party when we prefer it as the lesser evil."

A terrific wind prevailed at Quebec yesterday. All the railroads were blocked. A portion of the Government buildings was carried away, and two houses on Champlain street were blown down.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 17, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. MORRILL, from the Committee on Education and Labor, reported, with two amendments, the Senate bill to establish an educational fund and apply a portion of the proceeds of public lands to public education, and to provide for the more complete endowment and support of national colleges, for the advancement of scientific and industrial education. Placed on the calendar. In presenting the bill he said the committee was unanimous in its favor.

Mr. HOWE presented a petition, which he said purported to be signed by citizens of Wisconsin, asking the passage of a law requiring the Treasurer of the United States to pay to every man, woman and child residing in the country, without distinction on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude, the sum of ten dollars a week, such sum to be paid every Saturday night, at the postoffice nearest the residence of such person. He said there was no limitation as to time, but to prevent any undue expansion of currency, the petitioners thought that no more than $5,000,000,000 should be issued in any one year. He was not entirely certain that this was a wise measure. [Laughter.] It was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Senate took up unfinished business, being the report of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the joint resolution to pay interest on the 3-65 District bonds.

On motion of Mr. SHERMAN, the report was recommitted that the resolution might be perfected.

The Senate then took up the bill to provide for the sale of timber lands in the States of California and Oregon and in the Territories of the United States, the pending question being on the amendment of Mr. McMillan, providing that any person availing himself of the provisions of the act shall, in addition to the other requirements mentioned in the bill, declare that he has never executed any mortgage or other instrument on said land or any part thereof, by which the same is in any way liable to be vested in any other person. After discussion, the amendment of Mr. McMillan was agreed to.

Mr. SARGENT submitted an amendment requiring any person availing himself of the provisions of the act to declare, in addition to the other requirements mentioned in the bill, that he has made no agreement or contract by which the title he may acquire from the Government of the United States, or any right in said land or timber thereon, may inure, in the whole or in part, to any other person, etc. Agreed to.

Pending discussion, the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

The House opened this morning with no occupant in the Speaker's chair, Mr. Kerr being absent on account of illness, and omitting to appoint a Speaker *pro tem*. The duty of electing that officer, therefore, devolved upon the House, and as soon as the Chaplain had concluded prayer, Mr. RANDALL nominated Mr. Cox.

Mr. CLYMER moved to amend the motion by substituting the name of Mr. Blackburn for Mr. Cox, but the motion, on division, was withdrawn, and Mr. Cox was elected.

Mr. GARFIELD moved that the Clerk of office be administered to the Speaker *pro tem*., and made an argument in favor of his position.

Mr. RANDALL contended that it was not necessary to administer any oath to the person.

Mr. KASSON suggested that duties were imposed on the Speaker, such as signing bills, approving the Journal, &c., which a subordinate officer had a right to perform.

The discussion was continued at considerable length, Mr. Garfield's proposition being sustained by Messrs. Jones, of Kentucky, Hagan and Clements, and opposed by Messrs. Blaine and Wheeler. Finally a vote was taken, and the motion of Mr. Garfield was rejected—92 ayes, 124 nays.

The House then took up the bill for the reorganization of the Signal Service, under discussion. Mr. SAYLER moved to lay it on the table. Rejected.

The House adjourned.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

MINISTER SCHENCK'S RESIGNATION.

LONDON, February 17.—The evening papers publish the following: General Schenck's resignation has been tendered and accepted. He intends to remain in London to answer any charge that may be brought against him respecting the affairs of the Emma mine.

OPPOSITION TO THE SUEZ CANAL PURCHASE.

LONDON, February 17.—The Liberals have agreed to resist, in Parliament, the ratification of the purchase of the Suez Canal shares, believing that serious foreign complications will arise. Bradlaugh, who has been consulted by Gladstone, is laboring to country audiences and securing signatures to a petition imploring resistance to the ratification.

COLLISION IN THE STRAIT OF DOVER—MANY PERSONS DROWNED.

LONDON, February 17.—The Press Association furnishes the following: The steamer Franconia ran into the steamer Strathclyde, of Glasgow, off Dover this afternoon. The boilers of the Strathclyde burst and she sank immediately. Fifty-two of her passengers were drowned, five have been landed at Dover and four others are reported to have been saved. Smith, Sundius & Co., the steamer's agents, report that the Franconia has put into Dover. She had her stove at the water line.

Later.—Eleven bodies were landed and fifty-nine drowned on the Strathclyde.

The following particulars of the disaster have been received: The steamer Strathclyde, which sailed from London for Bombay, had been running down Dover bay with her pilot. As she was steering out again, about a mile from the Admiralty pier, she was caught by a strong tide, which turned her bow toward the Admiralty pier. The steamer Franconia, which was coming down the channel, ran into her with great force on her port quarter. The collision occurred at 4:30 P. M. Two minutes later the boilers of the Strathclyde exploded and the steamer went to the bottom. The Franconia was badly damaged, but kept afloat, although her fore compartment plates were carried away. Two tugs immediately took her in tow. The weather was clear and the sea calm at the time of the disaster. The Dover lifeboat was launched, but was unable to reach the scene in time to rescue any of the Strathclyde's passengers or crew.

Latest.—The *Times* reports that the Captain of the Strathclyde and twenty-eight survivors of the disaster have landed at Deal.

Spain.

CARLISTS SURROUNDED, PANIC-STRICKEN AND READY FOR PEACE.

HENDAYE, February 17.—The Alfonsists encircle Carlist positions as follows: On the east the forces under Campos are concentrated between Elizondo and the Valley of Otzondo, in readiness for an attack; on the North Navazacus' brigade is at Irun, waiting for orders to operate in the direction of Enderleza; another brigade is concentrated between Renterior and Oyarzun, threatening the Carlist right—onward an army corps, which started from Pamplona, is advancing towards the mountains near Leiza; in the west Morriones occupies important positions near Tolosa.

MADRID, February 17.—Just before Alfonso's departure for the North, Del Castello read to the King a dispatch from the Spanish Consul at Bayonne, announcing that the Carlist Junta intended to hold a meeting at Villa Franca to propose a conclusion of peace. The Carlists are represented as panic-stricken; they lack money and provisions. Many priests and Catholic families are quitting the country.

LONDON, February 17.—The steamship Egypt is reported ashore off Egremont beach. Egremont beach is on the River Mersey, opposite the Egypt's dock. The agents here apprehend no damage to the vessel.

Later.—The steamer Egypt, before reported ashore off Egremont beach, came off without damage and proceeded to Liverpool.

MOVILLE, February 17.—Steamship Elysia, from New York, arrived.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 17, 1876.

STEAMER ADRIATIC LIBELED BY OWNERS OF THE HARVEST QUEEN.

The steamship Adriatic has been libeled by the owners of the ship Harvest Queen, sunk in the Irish Channel. Damages are laid at $225,000. The steamship was released on a bond of $300,000.

PLYMOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL.

At the morning session of the Brooklyn Council, a resolution was adopted, after a long discussion, inviting Judge Van Cott to appear before the Council and state his views relative to the negotiations concerning the proposed and abandoned Mutual Council between himself, as the representative of Mrs. Moulton, and the committee of Plymouth Church.

The examination of Plymouth Church was continued, the questions referring to its action in the matter of the Mutual Council and its treatment of Mrs. Moulton and Deacon West. Mr. Beecher stated that his trial cost him $118,000.

At the evening session a communication was received from Henry C. Bowen, in response to a statement made by Mr. Winslow in the morning, that Bowen had been invited to testify before the Church Investigating Committee, but had nothing to say. Bowen replies that he was not so invited and had no intimation that he was wanted. If he had appeared before that committee, he could not have given what he proposes to give next week to the Examining Committee, namely: Reputation of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher guilty of adultery, perjury and hypocrisy. The communication was not read, but referred to the Committee on Business.

Judge Van Cott appeared and at great length related the history of the Mutual Council negotiations, particularly as to the exclusion of the churches of Drs. Storrs and Buddington. The thanks of the Council were tendered to Judge Van Cott.

MISSISSIPPI.

Lieutenant Governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction Impeached.

MEMPHIS, February 17.—The *Appeal's* Jackson, Miss., special says that yesterday, in the House, in secret session, was read the evidence in the impeachment investigation of Superintendent of Education Cardozo, and a resolution was adopted that he be impeached, by a vote of 101 to 4, nearly all the Republicans voting for impeachment. The managers are Messrs. Hudson, Shands, McNair, Hall and Leigh. The managers in the Davis impeachment case are Messrs. White, Clifton, Powell, Barksdale and Lester. The Senate has adopted rules for their guidance during the impeachment trial.

MEMPHIS, February 17.—The *Appeal's* Jackson, Mississippi, special says in the House to-day formal articles of impeachment of Lieutenant Governor Davis, colored, were adopted. The Ames Investigation Committee have concluded taking testimony and will report soon. The testimony will develop serious charges not heretofore current.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Pierre Mathivet, a resident of Cleveland for forty years, died suddenly Wednesday night of apoplexy.

The wife, son and sister of Winslow, the Boston forger, left Rotterdam for London yesterday afternoon.

Amann & Co., of Cincinnati, on trial the past week for omitting to make the proper entries of spirits, were yesterday acquitted.

Count von Arnim has been summoned to Berlin to stand trial on a charge of treason for publishing his pamphlet "Pro Nihilo." It is said the Count has decided to disobey the summons.

Three of the murderers of Birch, the English Resident of Perak, have been captured. One has confessed everything, and says nine men perpetrated the murder. He has given their names.

Carl Vogt, the murderer extradited from the United States to Belgium and sentenced to death, has appealed to the Courts of Cassation. The final judgment is expected about the end of March.

Patrick Kelly, arrested at Meadville on Wednesday, was found in his cell yesterday, dead, having hung himself with his clothing. He is supposed to have been insane. It is believed he came from the East and has a family in Newark, N. J.

MARCH MAGAZINES.

THE GALAXY.

The *Galaxy* for March combines its usual variety of subjects with more than its usual brilliancy of style. We find in the list of contributors William Black, the English novelist, Joaquin Miller, the eccentric poet, Justin McCarthy, Albert Rhodes and E. G. Holland, the prominent essayists.

General Custer, the dashing cavalry officer, contributes an article introductory to a series of sketches of his army experiences during the late war, in which he gives interesting letters not heretofore published from Gen. Robert E. Lee and General Wm. T. Sherman.

Colonel De Forest has a quaint and delightful story, "Yesebel," the scene of which is laid in New England in the time of the Puritans. J. H. Siddons, the English octogenarian writer, contributes a paper made up of anecdotes of the famous *literateurs* whom he knew in London early in the present century, including Coleridge, Tom Moore, Mark Lemon, Dickens and others. It reminds us of the well-known "Table Talk" of Rogers, except that it is fresh.

Lieutenant Kelley, United States Navy, presents a sketch of the Islands of Tahiti, that group in the middle of the Pacific of which so few readers have any definite knowledge. If Mr. Kelley had condensed his article into half the space, it would have been vastly better. E. G. Holland (not Tupper Holland), in a very able article entitled "Church and State," discusses the much vexed question of the spiritual and temporal power. An unknown writer discourses on "Hard Times and their Remedy," ascribing the present commercial depression to the use of labor saving inventions. As a remedy he recommends the establishment of great public works by the United States Government to furnish employment to the thousands of idle workmen in city and country. Another unknown writer presents a very interesting article upon the Aztecs and ancient nations of Mexico and Peru.

Albert Rhodes contributes a brilliant paper upon Louis Veuillot, under the title of "A Pugilist of the Press." The eccentric contemporary of the Church Militant is described in a way that shows familiarity with the subject and considerable insight. It is written with the tendency to epigrammatic form which Mr. Rhodes often exhibits in his articles, and is very readable. Joaquin Miller's poem is entitled "Vivian Grey Grown Old," the subject being, of course, Disraeli, the novelist and present Premier of England. This is probably the ablest article on Mr. McCarthy has ever written; and that is saying a great deal.

The poem by Joaquin Miller is of course full of fire and mystery and color and false rhythm and mechanical imperfections. It bears the stamp of the poet. After this comes a mild pair of verses by Mary B. Dodge, and then the poetical gem of the number, a picture in verse entitled "Three and One," by a new writer of great promise. The literary and scientific departments are full and valuable as usual, and altogether a most uncommonly full and attractive.

ST. NICHOLAS.

Of the contents of this month's *St. Nicholas*, Mr. Whittier's poem, "The Pressed Gentian," will probably be the most widely enjoyed. The true and tender verses read so charmingly alongside the bright stories and sketches for the children, and in that position reveal so clearly the child-heart of the great man, that the poem certainly appears to excellent advantage. "The Pressed Gentian" is written in his

The Commercial.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1876.

MR. KERR has been granted a furlough, and little SAMMY COX is temporarily lolling in the lap of the Speaker's chair.

How to carry the least patriotism and get the most credit for it is the problem which the Democratic party is at present unsuccessfully trying to solve.

FERNANDO WOOD is a great Democratic "reformer." He is at present figuring as defendant in a suit in New York for receiving moneys to procure an appointment. Selah!

THE House Democrats the other day passed a resolution ordering an investigation into the subject of leasing new offices by the Quartermaster General. They simply unearthed a mortification, the change saving six thousand dollars annually to the Treasury.

THE exports of domestic produce and miscellaneous goods from New York for the week ending on Wednesday were $3,-440,295, against $3,952,584 for the corresponding week in 1875, and $4,345,950 in 1874. The total exports of produce since January 1, this year, were $32,939,232, against $30,758,635 for the corresponding period in 1875, and $37,019,358 in 1874.

THE contract of the Secretary of the Treasury with the Syndicate for the sale of the five per cent. funding bonds has expired by limitation. The utmost confidence is expressed by the representatives of the Syndicate that they can negotiate a four and a half per cent. bond at par if the time is extended to thirty years. A bill thus to increase the time which these bonds will have to run is now pending, and will probably pass.

WHAT has become of the bill recently introduced in Congress providing increased penalties with reference to the dissemination of obscene publications? The most hideous work that man has ever undertaken is this diabolic attempt to undermine the moral principles of the youth of the country by means of these infernal but seductive agencies. We trust Congress will rouse itself to meet and stem this nameless, foulness without delay.

SENATOR GORDON, who is down in Georgia making speeches, was sent there by the Democratic leaders to counteract the effects of TOOMBS' speeches. GORDON is one of the men who, according to Chairman MORRISON, insisted on the appointment of "WILKES BOOTH" HAMBLETON as clerk of the Committee of Ways and Means. He hugs the Constitution very lovingly, in his addresses. It is also said that the devil is often found masquerading.

THE Supreme Court of this State has just decided, on appeal from the lower court of Northumberland county, that orders drawn by the president of a board of school directors upon the treasurer of the school district, under the school law, are not negotiable bills or orders, but are warrants for the payment of money to the persons to whom they are issued, to be disbursed by the Treasurer under the authority of the law. They therefore do not authorize a subsequent holder to maintain suit in his name upon a promissory note, bill or order. They do not possess the ordinary properties of a mere contract, but are a statutory means of drawing the public money out of the hands of the legal custodian of the funds of the district. This decision is of general interest.

THE Common Council of Rochester, New York, is considering the question of lending the credit of that city to complete the State Line Railroad. The project has been fully disscussed by the citizens of Rochester and the people of the bonded towns along the line, but opinion seems divided as to the proper and most advantageous course to pursue. The road will probably ultimately become a popular through route to the Ohio Valley, and it is argued that, with a connection with the Allegheny Valley an Atlantic and Great Western roads, it will pay well, and that the stock will soon after rise to or above par. The road will open a connection with the oil and coal districts of this State that will furnish a large business, in addition to through freight and travel.

CONGRESSMAN JENKS, of the Twenty-fifth district of this State, is Chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions. He has just covered himself with Confederate glory by discharging the committee clerk, a Union soldier, who was badly wounded in the war, and injured for life. The ousted official was continued as clerk of the committee at the beginning of the session because of his thorough knowledge of the business which would come before the committee. Having thus given the Chairman sufficient instruction to enable him to attend properly to the committee's affairs, he is dismissed to make room for a member of the Confederate Democratic combination. MR. JENKS' constituents will be likely to bear this matter in mind when he asks for a continuance of their suffrages.

THE New York papers are distressed over the intention of New England to give that city the go-by with daily passenger trains by passing around it instead of going through it. The new line will go into operation the first week in April. The trains will be taken by a steamer, built especially for that purpose, from the upper part of the city to Jersey City, meals being furnished on board. The time will be twelve hours from Boston to Philadelphia, and much inconvenience and some cost will be saved. The enterprise will be formidable if any considerable number of passengers is carried, and it is not unlikely it may open the way to a larger shipment of freight around the city which the present exorbitant charges for handling now tend to drive away. The remedy or preventive of this diversion is to reduce local charges. The *Bulletin* says:

Much as has been lately accomplished in providing terminal facilities for the larger commercial interests of the port, a great deal has yet to be achieved if we expect to retain undisputed the trade advantages that we already possess. Other cities and other communities are exhibiting new energy and extending their operations, and it will not do for New York, which claims to be the "commercial emporium" of the country, to be behind them in the race.

THERE is a speck of war between the Federal and State courts of Illinois, which promises to attract wide-spread attention. A certain suit pending in one of the county circuit courts against a local railway, counsel for complainant moved in that court for a transfer of the case to the United States District Court of that district. The Court denied the motion, and afterward learning that counsel had filed a certified copy of the record in the United States Court he issued an order, requiring him to show cause why he should not be attached for contempt in seeking to contravene his order. This case was to have been heard on Tuesday. It appears, however, that the case had been docketed in the United States Court by the filing of the record, and some two weeks ago a motion was made to strike it from the files for the reason that the railroad company, while a counter motion was made by the complainants to strike out the names of all defendants except the railroad company. These motions were argued on Tuesday in Chicago before the United States Circuit Court, which overruled the former and granted the latter motion, both judges concurring. This establishes a direct issue with the County Circuit Court, each court claiming jurisdiction. The question involves the rights of the State courts against the Federal courts.

BISHOP MCQUAID, the Catholic Bishop of the diocese of Rochester, New York, delivered an address in Boston a few days ago on "The Public School question as understood by an American citizen," the gist of which is contained in the following arraignment, couched in his own words, of the common school system of this country:

The public school system, as advocated by many to be imposed on all the citizens of this Republic, is nothing else, in my judgment, than a huge conspiracy against religion, individual liberty and enterprise, and parental rights, a monopoly on the part of the State, usurping to itself the entire control of the teacher's business, driving out competition, herding the children together in large numbers, working all alike as so many bits of machinery, instead of having them in smaller, family and neighborhood schools, acting on the children according to individual character, by teachers more immediately under the control of parents.

There is certainly no possibility of mistaking the meaning of this frank statement. He desires it to be known and understood of all men that he is an uncompromising enemy of free schools. He is also an authoritative exponent of the views of the Catholic hierarchy on this question. It is one of the cardinal dogmas of his Church that it is the same everywhere, at all times and in all countries, with variableness or shadow of turning. The logical inference is, therefore, that that Church would destroy our public school system, root and branch, if it only had the power. What do the friends of free education think of this?

THE sanitarists are beginning to tabulate the results of their observations of the effects of the present remarkable winter on the general health of the people. The conclusion, upon the whole, seems to be that while no disease is epidemic, there is a general prevalence of many complaints, especially of the character that are engendered by sudden changes in the weather. The opinion prevails that the decaying vegetation of last fall impregnated the atmosphere with animacules, which breed various diseases, although it is admitted that the theory is scarcely susceptible of scientific demonstration. In ordinary winters poisonous gases are principally gathered by the snow flakes and returned to the earth, enhancing its fertility, and the putrefaction is rendered innoxious by the frost. Zymotic diseases are reported as particularly prevalent. There is an unusual amount of diphtheria, and many cases of spinal meningitis. Pulmonary affections of an acute nature are not so common as last winter, however. A very important factor in the problem of the public health is the amount of ozone present in the atmosphere. This element was discovered by SCHONBEIN in 1839, and is the most powerful disinfectant known. It is simply oxygen in an allotropic state, that is, the same substance is oxygen but in a different form and endowed with different properties. It is the most powerful oxidizing agent we possess, and its bleaching properties are said to exceed those of chlorine nearly forty times. FLAMMARION says in regard to it: "That notwithstanding all the researches made in reference to ozone, the knowledge of it is from a physical and chemical point of view very imperfect; as it is impossible even with the most perfect methods to transform more than 1-1300 of a mass of oxygen into pure ozone." On the contrary, ANDREWS and TAIT maintain that by a continuous electric discharge for many hours, they were enabled to transform into ozone one-twelfth of the volume of oxygen operated on. During late years it has largely engaged the attention of medical men, who think they have discovered that disease of the respiratory organs are most prevalent when it is at or near its maximum, while contagious diseases are comparatively infrequent, and *vice versa*.

KENTUCKY has just struck a bonanza in the shape of the discovery of a vast bed of marl underlying an area of some twelve thousand square miles, mainly that part of the State where it appears to be most needed, the tobacco-growing counties. The State Geologist's opinion of the value of the discovery is shown by his characterizing it as perhaps the most important ever made by a geological survey." This marl bed is described as being of a thickness varying from twelve to thirty feet, very rich in potash, soda and phosphorus, so exposed and easily dug that at several points it can be loaded into wagons or cars at about twenty-five cents per ton, accessible by open digging over an area of about three thousand square miles, and by deeper mining sure to be used in time over twelve thousand miles. This is a discovery of very great importance to the tobacco regions of that State, as the marl will furnish the very elements withdrawn from the soil by those crops which carry away so much of its fertility. Thousands of acres, which have been so exhausted that they will no longer make tobacco at all, or even respectable crops of anything else, can, the State Geologist says, by proper use of this fertilizer, be restored to their pristine productiveness. And not that State alone, but the agriculture of the whole Ohio Valley will be benefited by this discovery, the supply being practically inexhaustible. The Louisville *Commercial* says it is worth a good deal more to Kentucky than the discovery of a gold mine in her borders would have been. According to the State Auditor's report, the tobacco crop of Kentucky fell off last year over 122,000,000 pounds, but this discovery will give the means of restoring the productiveness of the impoverished soil at a very low cost. A special report on the subject will be made within a few weeks.

THE Democratic press is constantly harping on the "hard times," and insisting that they are principally attributable to the past ascendancy of the Republican party; whereas, in reality, it is the Democratic policy that is largely responsible for the general depression of industry and enterprise. Following the great tidal wave panic of 1873, it will be remembered there came a partial revival of trade and business confidence, and a gradual return toward the ancient landmarks of financial safety and stability. Only a few months, however, was this financial recuperation permitted to continue, when a new danger appeared and frightened timid capital back into the vaults of the owners. This was the election of a Confederate Democratic majority in our National House of Representatives. When that act was consummated, the manufacturer, the banker and the capitalist opened their eyes, looked about them, and commenced taking in sail for the coming storm. And they are still setting their houses in order, determined to prepare for the worst, if the worst should come, and to run no risks. This is one of the main reasons why the country is still covered with a cloud of doubt and apprehension; and it will only be effectually dispelled by the decisive defeat of the reactionary Democratic combination at the next general election. A correspondent of the Indianapolis *Journal* sums up the whole matter when he says: "The repeal of the Resumption act would be a great aid, but a positive assurance now of a Republican success next autumn would be a greater financial relief to the country at large than any possible legislation by Congress." Let the people think of it.

OHIO NEWS.

MRS. Jane Wallace died at Dayton, on Saturday, aged ninety-four years.

Government officers were in search of whisky irregularities at Tippecanoe last week.

The Holmes church, in Jefferson county, was the first Methodist Episcopal church built in Ohio.

MRS. Richardson, who recently killed her husband at Canton, has been indicted for murder in the first degree.

Mrs. Rachel Applegate, aged eighty-four years, was burned to death at Youngstown on Monday, by her clothes catching fire.

Jesse Wheeler, Sr., aged seventy-seven years, and Mrs. Margaret Ferguson, aged seventy-five years, were married at Findlay on the 6th inst.

William Sowers, while stealing a ride on a freight train, near Bucyrus, on Saturday, fell off and received injuries which will probably lead to his death.

A half-witted girl named Harrold was burned to death in Mt. Vernon a few days ago. Her clothing took fire from a grate, and her body was so dreadfully burned that she lingered three hours in dreadful agony.

William Cooper went to California from Fostoria twenty years ago. For nineteen years past his friends have not heard from him. Last week his brother received a letter informing him that William was still living.

The jury in the Murphy murder case, at Dayton, did not agree, and were discharged on Saturday. Eleven were for finding him guilty of murder in the first degree, but the twelfth man hung out for murder in the second degree. It is thought there will be another trial of the case in April.

"General" Coe, now living in Van Wert county, was born July 4, 1776. Both parents were massacred by Indians. He served through the war of 1812, and was with General Scott at the capture of Niagara and Fort George. Mrs. Coe, aged ninety, and several children ranging from fifty to seventy years of age, are taking care of the veteran.

At Troy, Saturday evening, a young man named C. T. Adams shot and wounded his wife, a daughter of George Zeigenfelder, a prominent grain merchant, the ball entering her arm near the elbow. He then fled to the residence of his father a few moments after the attempted murder and shot himself three time in the heart. Cause, jealousy. He was respectably connected.

A house built over an old coal mine in the outer limits of Zanesville was the scene of an accident nearly fatal to an entire family on the 11th inst. The ground under the cellar caved in, carrying with it three children of Mrs. Waters, who were there at play. Hearing their cries, the mother rushed into the cellar, to fall a distance of fifteen feet. Her screams were heard, and assistance came, just in time to save all from perishing from the effects of foul gas.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Miss Florence Jewell is as sweet as a peach and wears apricot silk.

Old Tecumseh proposes to lecture St. Louis on "Education." He has ideas.

Honorable. New York city is getting up a fund for the relief of the families of deceased firemen.

The best description we have yet read of Florida is this: "A sand-bank dotted with swamps."

Extensive and valuable deposits of silver have just been discovered in Whitley county, Indiana.

A play called "Shame" is running in Brooklyn. Didn't think the article was to be found there.

The Government of Peru has invited a Congress of Americans to settle questions of international law.

Kentucky is one of the few of the older States of this country that has not even the semblance of a sanitary board.

The New York *World* is waging a relentless war on Blaine. If the latter should ever find it out he will no doubt feel bad.

Everything is auriferous or argentiferous, in California. A species of trout with golden scales has just been discovered there.

Wisconsin has no faith in Portia. The Supreme Court of that State decides that women lawyers cannot legally practice there.

Profitable for Jay Gould. The eastward bound freight which left California last year was over 50,000 tons, requiring 5,348 cars.

Missouri's Centennial display will cover the whole ground of her mining, manufacturing, agricultural and commercial interests.

The Ohio State Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry is in session. There are 1,247 granges in the State, with a membership of over 60,000.

Chicago is in the hands of Democratic "reformers," and the people, on the first day of the year, were $10,000,000 in arrears on tax payments.

Benefaction. Mr. Ben. E. Facter, of California, has just give give $50,000 to establish a free academy in his native town in Massachusetts.

The New York Legislature proposes to make baggage-smashing a criminal offense, punishable with a fine of $20 and six months imprisonment.

If you want to cause the average Bourbon to get up and howl, just say something about amnesty, Jeff. Davis, Ben Hill, Dan Tucker, or Bob Toombs.

There are one hundred and eighty silk factories in the United States, scattered through nineteen States. Pennsylvania has twenty-three of them.

The steamship companies have been "interviewed" by the New York *Bulletin*. They do not expect any great rush of passengers this Centennial year.

A clergyman at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, has been dismissed from his pulpit because he is a Mason. This is a tolerant age, and that must be a pleasant mount.

Charles Nordhoff is to write a paper on the industrial and social condition of the South for the next meeting of the American Social Science Association.

A brilliant Democratic paper in Vermont has made the interesting discovery that no bill can be introduced into Congress without the consent of two-thirds.

Lord Houghton, the English peer-poet, has pronounced in favor of woman suffrage, holding that when taxed women should have the right to vote.

Eli Perkins has favored us with a general ticket of admission to his lectures. Eli talks more and knows less to the square inch than any other man in this country.

Congressman King is told by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company that he will be exonerated if he ponies up $115,000. Does this mean that he got the sum of $115,000.

Shrinkage. The depreciation of foreign securities in England within the past four years is estimated at £77,000,000, or about forty-nine per cent. of the original cost price.

They talk of bridging the Detroit river with a tunnel, which, it is claimed, would answer every purpose, while it would not offer any obstruction to navigation.

Chautauqua Lake is frozen over ten inches thick. This is undoubtedly owing to the extreme elevation of the lake, it being 728 feet above the level of Lake Erie.

A man in Oswego county, New York, proposes to wear to the Centennial a pair of breeches that his grandfather wore in 1776, and which had been left him as a legacy.

They have new ministries in British Columbia and Quebec. Both provinces are very much like some of the South American States in that respect; they mouit Governments regularly.

The recent decision of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue forbidding the issuing of licenses to peddlers of liquor, applies equally to those who sell liquor on board steamboats and ferryboats.

The Boston *Post* thinks it odd that the softest love poetry the world ever saw should have been written by a confirmed old bachelor. Not at all. Marriage would have disenchanted his imagination.

The Dominion Legislature is now wrestling with John Barleycorn, King Gambrinus, and "the spirit of the still," that trio of worthy gentlemen who have played so important a part in this world's history.

It is found that the gunboat and steam launches sent to the Rio Grande are of such teep draft—four feet—as to render them useless for at least ten months in the year, during which time the river has not more than two feet of water.

Wisdom boiled down. Bad luck is a man with his hands in his pockets and his pipe in his mouth, looking on to see how it will come out. Good luck is a man of pluck with his sleeves rolled up and working to make it come out right.

PERSONAL.

Miss Ellen Eldredge, who became the wife of Mr. James Parton, her step-father, is the "Nelly" of Fanny Fern's "Ruth Hall."

A noble charity. The recently deceased Thomas Liversidge, of Dorchester, Mass., left $400,000 to found an institution for the education of poor boys.

A singular case is now pending in the District Court of Muscatine, Iowa. A man named Theodore Tilton is applying for a divorce on the ground of his wife's adultery. It is not stated who is the Beecher in this case.

It is intimated that in the beginning of June Louis J. Jennings will withdraw from the post he has so long and so efficiently occupied as chief editor of the New York *Times*, and will sail for Europe with the intention of remaining there indefinitely.

Another Union soldier, Captain Wilson, of Peoria, Illinois, was discharged from the service of the House of Representatives the day before yesterday, to make room for another ex-Confederate. And some Northern people seem to enjoy this sort of thing.

Joe Howard, of the New York *Star*, who knows, says that Bessie Turner is not leering. "Miss Turner"—these are his words—"is living quietly in a neighboring city, and our rural friends have been grossly imposed upon." What has the young lady who assumes to be Miss Turner to say for herself?

An old letter of Mr. Thomas Carlyle's on teaching, written in 1859 to a young man who asked his counsel, has just been published. In it he says: "The grand secret (worth all the others together, and without which all the others are worth nothing and less) for inculcating and teaching virtues and graces is, that a man honestly, and with more and more of silent sincerity, have them in himself, lodged there in the silent deeps of his being; they will not fail to shine through and be not only visible but undeniable in whatever he is led to say or do, day every hour of the day he will, consciously and unconsciously, find good means of teaching them."

A Massachusetts paper states that Winslow, the Boston forger, "came honestly" by his dishonesty. He comes of a family of dissolute characters and law-breakers, who were well-known, years ago, in and around Barre. Thomas Winslow was repeatedly arrested for counterfeiting, and at last a box of bad bills was found in his cellar. His brother, Mark, was one of the most noted counterfeiters in the State, and ended his life by suicide rather than serve out a sentence of twelve years. Another brother, followed the same trade, and spent about half his life in jail. Lucretia, a sister, was in the gang, and signed the bills. Afterward, removing to Pennsylvania, she became the reputed wife of a man who was presently hanged for murder, and had herself a narrow escape from conviction as accomplice. Still later, she joined a strolling theatrical company, and died at the South. She was a person of talent and winning manners, but of no principle. Two other sisters of the Winslows married well-known counterfeiters. This family history accounts both for the cleverness and the crimes of the Boston forger. He had inherited a taste for deception, and for getting money dishonestly earned.

STATE NEWS.

The diphtheria has been and is very bad at Schuylkill Haven.

The Rev. Joseph Focht has been elected pastor of the Lutheran church in Huntingdon.

The Rev. Hugh Castles died died at Jersey Shore, Lycoming county, on the 12th inst.

One night last week Allentown had seven parties, and there was some tall "scraping to get fiddlers."

The congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading, are raising funds for building a new church edifice.

Dr. Bausman, of Reading, is among those named to succeed Dr. Nevin as President of Franklin and Marshall College.

A Wilkesbarre servant girl swallowed an ounce and a half of laudanum to cure the toothache. Her teeth will ache no more.

The late Auditor General Allen has struck "pay dirt" in Colorado, assaying $4,340 16 in gold and $45 25 in silver per ton.

Eight thousand dollars were raised in the Second Presbyterian Church, Williamsport, on Sunday to pay off the $12,000 indebtedness on the edifice.

The physicians of Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata counties have formed an association to be known as the Juniata Valley Medical Association.

Bessie Turner had less than half a hundred to hear her lecture in Erie. She announces herself in her advertisements as "the purest of modern times."

The old stack of furnace No. 2, belonging to the Blair Iron and Coal Company, Hollidaysburg, was undermined and thrown down one day last week.

The revival in the Presbyterian church, Huntingdon, has resulted in the admission of one hundred persons to membership, a large part of the number being gentlemen.

A Lancaster county clergyman is lecturing on "The Model Husband." He may mean well, but we dislike to be talked about in such a public manner.—*Norristown Herald.*

William Muncy, of Lycoming county, who was injured by a boiler explosion, sued the owner and has obtained $1,000 damages. The defendants will appeal to the Supreme Court.

William Green, aged thirteen, stabbed and killed William King, aged sixteen, in West Philadelphia on Sunday night. The young murderer claims that the stabbing was done in self defense.

Miss Lily Walker, who lived with her parents at Morrisdale Mines, near Phillipsburg, has joined the angel band. She thought kerosene would make the fire burn quickly, and was not mistaken.

Thomas and Hannah Smith, aged respectively seventy-nine and seventy-five, of Glen Loch, celebrated their golden wedding on the 9th inst., with a large attendance of their children and grandchildren.

John George, Esq., Postmaster of Lebanon, President of the Valley National Bank, and a prominent citizen of Lebanon county for many years, died on the 10th inst. He was a member of the Legislature in 1857.

Last week Anthony Gannon and a few friends attended a ball in Schuylkill county. On the way home they had a drunken quarrel, and Gannon was fatally stabbed. He died on Saturday night. No arrests.

George A. Woodward, son of the late Chief Justice Woodward, now serving with the army in Utah, is suffering severely from a wound received in the late war, and is feared he will have to have his leg amputated.

Willie Behm, age sixteen years, was performing on a trapeze, in Altoona, on Thursday, when he fell head-foremost to the ground. The spinal chord was lacerated about the last cervical vertebre, and death resulted on Friday.

The Williamsport *Gazette and Bulletin* now issues a Sunday edition, eight pages, filled with excellent reading matter. The managers of the paper know how to get up a daily journal, and send out one of the spiciest, newsiest publications in the State.

Samuel Bogart, convicted of killing his father-in-law W. A. Kline, in Columbia county, has been fined $300 and sentenced to the penitentiary for three years. The Kline, who barred their father, were fined $100 each and sentenced to undergo an imprisonment of one year.

The Carrolltown correspondent of the Ebensburg *Herald* writes that Mr. Christopher Karl, one of the oldest citizens of that village, dropped dead on the morning of the 5th inst., after having eaten a hearty breakfast. The immediate cause of death was a rush of blood to the heart.

At Karns City, Fay Madison married Alice Blank, much against the will of the latter's parents. Mrs. Blank followed the happy pair to the depot, and, putting a revolver to the new son-in-law's head, was about giving him quick quietus, when outsiders interfered and prevented bloodshed.

The National Department G. A. R., in connection with the Department of Pennsylvania, have opened handsome rooms at 920 Walnut street, Philadelphia, as headquarters for visiting members of the Society during the Centennial. All honorably discharged soldiers will be made welcome.

There were 343 deaths in Philadelphia last week—a decrease of 8 from the number reported the previous week. Of the whole number 190 were adults and 153 minors; 131 died from diseases of the respiratory organs, old age 12, apoplexy 5, cancer 5, convulsions 13, heart disease 9, scarlet fever 7, marasmus 10, old age 12, paralysis 6, and small pox 7.

When J. W. Freeman, of the Pittston *Comet* was released from jail on a pardon, he was escorted from Wilkesbarre to his home at Pittston by a band of music. Many residences in Pittston were illuminated, and the procession was greeted with cheers from the men and waving of handkerchiefs by the ladies. And yet six months hence, Freeman may be unable to obtain credit in Pittston for a kit of mackerel.

Mrs. Cerzerwinsky, aged twenty-four, with her infant, was found dead in her bed in Scranton on the morning of the 11th inst. It is supposed that she had an attack of cramp during the night, and that the bedclothes suffocated the child, which was found tightly clasped in her stiffened arms, its face black and blood oozing from its mouth. Her husband was a baker, and early on the morning of the 11th found the wife and child met their sad fate.

Norristown *Herald* says: The bill introduced in the House at Harrisburg, requiring all city passenger railway companies to partition the seats in their cars so that each passenger shall have an enclosed separate seat of sixteen inches, is a good move, but rather rough on the person. Such a law would compel a fat man to either walk or occupy two seats, and in the latter event he would find the partition blamed uncomfortable.

There appeared last week in the obituary columns of the Philadelphia *Ledger* notices of the deaths of fourteen persons—four men and ten women—who had lived to or beyond the advanced age of eighty years, to wit: Col. John K. Murphy, 80; Honora Stanton, 80; Mary Colcord, 81; Nancy Shermer, 81; Daniel J. Thomas, 82; Catharine Deliver, 82; Ann McEnemery, 82; Mrs. S. A. Dunlap, 84; Samuel Smedley, 85; Margaret T. Webb, 87; Rachel Steell, 90; Ellen Rourke, 91; Elizabeth Schweppenheiser, 91; Sarah Thomas, 91, and Peter Miedler, 93.

Last election day John Hoffman, of Huntingdon, said he was going to husk corn and afterward vote, since which time no traces of him have been seen. He was a German by birth and spoke broken English. He was about forty-five years of age, though looking much younger, wore a full, but not very heavy beard, had a peculiar dark, brilliant eye, and was a man of strictly moral and temperate habits. He had on, when last seen, his working clothes, and left his trunk, clothing and effects behind him. Any information concerning him will be thankfully received by addressing T. P. Love, Cottage, Huntingdon county, Pa., or R. McDivitt, Huntingdon, Pa.

On Saturday last a man named Thomas McClure, residing at Nesquehoning, suicided, and in the most deliberate manner. From what we can learn it appears that he took an army rifle, and tying a shoe-string into a loop attached it to the trigger, placing the loop on his big toe, sat down on the floor at his residence, and, thus prepared, committed the desperate act. The body presented a sickening sight, being so terribly disfigured as scarcely to be recognizable. McClure leaves a wife and three grown-up daughters. So far as heard no cause is assigned for the commission of the rash act, although having been out of work for some time he had appeared somewhat dejected in spirits.

Benjamin O. Corter, born February 14, 1772, and Rachel, his wife, born August 16, 1777, are residents of Lewis township, Lycoming county—the husband being one hundred and four and the wife ninety-nine years old. The couple were married by Rev. John Thomas, in Williamsport, August 16, 1800. One day last summer they walked a distance of six miles—three going and three returning—for the purpose of taking dinner with a daughter. The old lady can see to knit and sew almost as well as ever. They raised a family of twelve children, the oldest having nearly reached the age of seventy-five years. They have eighty-two grand, seventy-five great-grand and twelve great-great-grandchildren. Total 181.

Last October Judge Nites Taylor, a wealthy merchant of Smethport, McKean county, felt from the rear door of his residence, a distance of eighteen feet, breaking his back. It was thought he would die in a few days, but he is still living and no fears are entertained of his speedy death. His spinal column was dislocated a little above the center of its length. Until Dr. Freeman ingeniously replaced it, he suffered great pain in the broken column. Since then the pain has ceas3d, but he has no feeling of any kind below the fracture. His stomach is curiously affected, a portion of its functions, or rather, its energies, has been destroyed so that even when acting on light food its operations are slow and, to a certain extent, uncertain. Whenever he partakes of stronger food than prepared milk or gruel, as his appetite frequently tempts him to do, despite of all previous experience, he suffers severe pain all round that portion of his body above a line across and intersecting the point of injury. In other words, so far as feeling and other sensation are concerned, he seems to have been literally broken in two parts, and while one-third of his body is as thoroughly alive as ever, the lower two-thirds are as dead as though buried in the grave. His mental faculties are as clear as ever.

INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS NOTES.

The Bedford, Pa., *Inquirer* states that a movement is on foot for the building of a railroad from Piper's Run, on the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad, to Pattonville, in Woodberry township, Bedford county. The Huntingdon and Broad Top Company will furnish the rolling stock and run the new road.

The entire number of vessels owned in the Gloucester, Massachusetts, district, December, 31, 1875, is 504, with an aggregate tonnage of 30,309.34. They are classified as follows: 397 fishing vessels, with an aggregate of 21,537.10 tons; ninty five coasters, 7,470.40 tons; nine in foreign trade, 1,110.37, and three yachts, 182.47 tons.

The shipments of quicksilver from San Francisco in 1875 were 39,400 flasks, valued at $2,328,400, against 12,600 flasks, valued at $1,300,000, in 1874—an increase of over 200 per cent. in quantity and over 79 per cent. in value. Of this amount 10,400 flasks went to New York, and 29,000 to China, Japan, Mexico, etc. The New Almaden mine is still the chief source of supply, its product having been increased 50 per cent. Some of the other mines, however, will soon take the lead, as they are worked more economically.

The following is the Michigan lumber product for the years 1874 and 1875:

Lumber Manufactured.
1874—2,308,501,571. 1875—2,420,762,644.
Lumber on hand January 1st.
1875—564,198,985. 1876—676,875,428
Logs on hand in Boom and Streams January 1st.
1875—496,277,294. 1876—554,939,071.

Add the logs and lumber on hand, and it will be seen Michigan lumbermen will have for market 1,200,000,000 feet this year, without cutting a new log. The estimated amount of stock being cut has been stated at 1,472,000,000 which, while it is not probable it will be done, would give a total of 2,672,000,000 feet for 1876.

Amelioration and Cure.

Amelioration of the symptoms of a disease is, of course, one desirable object of medication, and there are, no doubt, palatives which possess considerable medical efficacy. The temporary disappearance of the *indicia* of a disease, in too many instances, however, delude the sick into a belief that they are cured. Many of those who have borne grateful testimony to the permanent remedial effects of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, in cases of liver disorder, chronic constipation, intermittent and remittent fevers, urinary and rheumatic ailments, have also recorded the fact that the temporary relief occasionally afforded by the medicines which they tried before using the great curative possessed hopes which were speedily dissipated by return of the malady. The Bitters not only relieve, but if persistently and faithfully taken, cure the maladies to which they are subject.

E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron

Gives tone to the stomach, improves the appetite and assists digestion, thereby tends to vitality action, expelling all the foul humors that contaminate the blood, corrupt the secretions and offend the breath. It excites the liver to healthy action and strengthens the nerves, imparting that glow to life that proceeds alone from perfect health. Thousands in all walks of life testify to the virtues of this excellent medicine in correcting the derangement of the digestive organs. Get the genuine. Sold only in $1 bottles. Ask for E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON, and take no other.

Dyspepsia. Dyspepsia. Dyspepsia.

E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON, a sure cure for this disease. It has been prescribed daily for many years in the practice of eminent physicians with unparalleled success. Symptoms are loss of appetite, wind and rising of food, dryness in mouth, headache, dizziness, weakness and low spirits. Get the genuine. Not sold in bulk, only $1 bottles. Do you eat without relish? Do you lack strength and good appetite? Do you want to get rid of nervousness? Do you want cheery, sleep well, or be cured of dyspepsia? Then use E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON. Every bottle guaranteed to do as recommended. Sold by all druggists. Depot and office, 259 North Ninth street, Philadelphia, Pa. For the genuine. Sold by all druggists. Ask for E. F. Kunkel's, and take no other.

Tape Worm

Removed alive with head complete, in from two to three hours. No fee till removed by E. F. Kunkel, 259 North Ninth street, Philadelphia. Send Pin and Stamp to address of removals. Call and see him free, or send for circular. Ask your druggist for KUNKEL'S WORM SYRUP. Price, $1 per bottle. MWF

NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.,

43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.

W. W. MARTIN.....President.
JAMES E. STEVENSON.....Secretary.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
Assets January 1, 1872 - $778,351 56.

CHARTERED IN 1869.

Open daily from 9 to 3 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from 6 to 8 o'clock. Deposits made on or before 5 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 7 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent. per annum, compounded three times a year, on the 1st of February, June and October, and 15th of each month, if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Book of rules, &c., furnished at the office.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JAMES M. COULTER, Jr., Vice President
D. E. MCKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
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John H. Kelley, Solicitor.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR IRON.

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, January 14, 1876.

SEALED PROPOSALS ARE INVITED to furnish, delivered at this Arsenal, the following:

30,000 lbs. of 12-inch Wrought Iron I Beams.
85,000 lbs. of 7-inch Wrought Iron Deck Beams.
187,000 lbs. of 6-inch Wrought Iron Deck Beams.
20,000 lbs. of T Iron from 2½-inch x 3½-inch to 3-inch x 3½-inch.
56,000 lbs. of Round Bar Iron from ⅝-inch to 2-inch diameter.
38,000 lbs. of Flat and Square Bar Iron, various sizes.

The name or place of manufacture of the Iron must be stated. The Beams will be subject to inspection and test, and will be required to possess the stiffness and strength indicated in the published charts of the manufacturers.

The Flat and Round Iron is required to be of best quality, highly refined, and to possess a tensile strength of not less than 54,000 pounds per square inch, without permanent set, and with the elongation of 20 per cent. before breaking, welding, &c.

Bids for any other than the high grade of Iron required will not be considered.

Proposals should be indorsed "Proposals for Iron," and will be opened at 10 A. M., MARCH 10, 1876.

The right to reject any and all bids not deemed satisfactory is reserved.

For full list of Iron, specifications for quality and other information, apply to the undersigned.

D. W. FLAGLER, Major of Ordnance.

Proposals for Building a Dam on the Great Kanawha River, W. Va

U. S. ENGINEERS' OFFICE,
BALTIMORE, MD., February 12, 1876.

PROPOSALS FOR BUILDING A DAM on the Great Kanawha river, West Virginia, near Brownstown, will be received until noon of MARCH 6, 1876, and opened immediately thereafter. Blank forms, specifications, and any desired information can be had on application at th office.

WM. P. CRAIGHILL, Major of Engineers.

LEGAL.

IN THE MATTER OF THE VOLUNTARY assignment of Hart, Caughey & Co., to D. T. Watson, Assignee in Common Pleas, No. 432 June Term, 1875.

And now, February 12, 1876, first and partial account of D. T. Watson, Assignee of the firm of Hart, Caughey & Co., and of the individual estate of Caughey, presented to open Court, and thereupon the same is ordered to be filed, and confirmed nisi. And the proffered notice is directed to give notice of the same by publication in the Pittsburgh Commercial and Evening Telegraph, for the next three weeks. And, unless on or before WEDNESDAY, March 8, A. D., 1876, exceptions be filed thereto, the same will be confirmed absolutely.

By the Court,
Attest: B. F. KENNEDY,
Prothonotary.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.—LETTERS Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned upon the estate of JULIUS DROCOURT, deceased, late of Pittsburgh, Allegheny county, Pa., all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the said estate will present the same for settlement to

A. H. DROCOURT, Executor,
26 and 28 Sixth street, Pittsburgh.
Pittsburgh, January 24, 1876.

NEW RELIGIOUS PAPER.

THE PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL,

$1 50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.
NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR POSTAGE.

ALFRED NEVIN, D. D., LL. D., } Editors.
REV. J. FORD SUTTON, }

This cheapest of all religious papers is published in unexceptionable style, on a sheet 26 by 37½ inches. It uses no ink in the letter-press. Its columns are found in its pages. It excludes all *questions* and *answers*, all *Medical* and other *Boards*. No effort is spared to make it a live discussion. No effort is spared to make it a *pure*, safe, attractive and instructive journal for THE FAMILY.

While it is a Denominational paper, it embraces in its outlook all the branches of the Reformed family of Adam. Its articles are brief, pointed, varied, lively and earnest. The INTERNATIONAL LESSONS, prepared expressly for the JOURNAL by one of its Editors, are said by leading Sunday School men in all parts of the country to be the VERY BEST issued, and WORTH THE PRICE OF THE PAPER. These, with other marked features, render it a most desirable paper for Sunday School Workers. It is just such a paper as suits the times, both in

TERMS AND TONE.

The marked ability and ripe experience which the Senior Editor, Rev. Dr. NEVIN, brings with him to the editorial chair, are a sufficient guaranty that the paper will be abreast with the demands of

THE AGE IN F

FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, February 17, 1876.

That the condition of affairs in financial and business circles is unsatisfactory cannot be denied. Ever since the panic of 1873, people have been hoping for and the press has been predicting a speedy return of the times of prosperity. This has been rather because the wish was father to the thought than because there was any good reason on which to base these predictions.

That we will speedily have a return of a prosperity such as characterized the years just prior to 1873, we cannot find good reasons for believing. Those were exceptional years, the rapid fluctuations in values, with the tendency constantly toward higher prices, made it easy to gain wealth rapidly and without the corresponding expenditure of labor. In times prior to the war the accumulation of a modest fortune was the result of a life time of hard labor, of careful saving and of the judicious investments of yearly earnings, and we may as well make up our minds to return to the slower and surer ways of our fathers. The rapid enhancement of values in such local staples as iron and petroleum gave opportunities for the amassing of wealth in a short time, which will probably not be repeated in the life time of the present generation.

The banks then carried their reserve in their vaults in six per cent. compound interest notes of the Government, were overrun with deposits, on which they paid no interest, and made loans at high rates on paper that they could uniformly collect at maturity. Their losses were next to nothing, and their earnings were large. At present the general shrinkage in values falls upon the banks as well as upon the merchants, and a return to lower dividends as a rule is to be expected.

The *Dry Goods Reporter*, in a frank article on the business outlook, says:

However unpleasant a narration of facts may be, a summary thereof cannot prove otherwise than of wholesome influence, if expensive lessons are of any moment to the commercial mind in arriving at a proper judgment in the most ordinary transactions of the daily routine of business. The second month of the year is well opened, yet the inactivity prevailing is greater than for any similar period since the year set in. It is useless to picture the market in rose colors, when to do so would have the double tendency of belittling our own observations and deceiving our readers.

It is impossible to predict when an active market will set in and continue for any length of time. The whole tenor of supply and demand appears to have changed, and though the period of the season is at hand when activity should reign in every department, there is in reality less doing than since January opened. The whole question is answered in the fact that the supply is in excess of the demand, and while the productive capacity of the country continues to furnish merchandise in like proportion it is not only improbable, but absolutely impossible for any improvement of importance to be maintained.

Financial, commercial and manufacturing interests are alike depressed, and though now and then an exceptional instance may be presented, the fact is none the less clear that the general business of the country is far from satisfactory, with little hope of the immediate future giving relief, until a radical change of some kind can infuse vigor and impart an elasticity through every department. Improvement must come unawares, and then it will be known as legitimate, and though it has been periodically announced as at hand, the continued and increasing lethargy that marks the action of the most prominent operators indicates the presence of every other influence rather than that which is desired.

The coming season will be rendered unsettled by the excitement of the Centennial celebration and the Presidential election, and the return of a thorough, healthy and profitable business will probably be deferred until after these disturbing causes have subsided. Recuperation in business will come about gradually that it will be impossible to point to the time when it began, and, like the return of a sick man to health, the accumulation of strength will be an accomplished fact before we can realize the actual progress that has been made.

—The Wall street *Review* has the following account of the stock market:

The cliques have been unusually busy during the past week playing at hammer and tongs on the active stocks. Everybody has been on the alert to catch the drift of the current and follow the action of the Stock Exchange leaders, whereby they may put out a new line or realize on the profits of the existing market. The bears, led on by Jay Gould, the beginning of this month succeeded in putting such a violent check on the upward movement as to demoralize operators who had been confident of higher prices. Those who were behind the scenes, however, were prepared for the assault—and in spite of the circulated rumors of *cooked accounts* and coming failures the bulls have sustained the market within one or two points of the highest prices of the present year.

At first the pressure was heavy and the footprints of the Ursa Major were plainly visible.

It was said stocks had gone up higher than their intrinsic value warranted, and then the announcement was made that some of the shrewdest bulls had taken their profits. Just previous to this a large line of shorts had been put out when the market was rampant. Then the attack was commenced. Pacific Mail fell to 84, New York Central to 93, Lake Shore to 64⅝, Hannibal and St. Joe to 18, Ohio's to 20⅝, Western Union to 77, Quicksilver to 35⅝. Considering the market thus sagged off helped the downward movement, and the shorts in the meantime covered. The word of command passed quickly round and a new force composed of the long horns and fresh recruits joined issue and gathered in the profits.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

	10:30	10:50	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:30
February 17, 1876.	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	113⅝	113⅝	113⅝	113¼	113¼	113⅛
U. S. 6's 1881, coup	118⅛	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865	118⅛	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865, new	119⅛	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1867, registered	122¾	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1867	122¾	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1868	123⅝	....	....	....	....	....
10-40's	118⅛	....	....	....	....	....
10-40's, coupons	121	....	....	....	....	....
Currency 6's	125	....	....	....	....	....
New 5 per cents	115¾	....	....	....	....	....
Western Union Tel	74	73¾	74⅛	73⅝	73⅝	73⅛
Quicksilver	17	17	....	....	....	....
Pacific Mail	33¾	33⅝	33⅞	33¾	34	33⅞
Panama	....	130	....	....	....	....
Adams Express	109	108½	109	....	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	81	81	....	....	....	....
American Express	61¾	61¼	61	....	....	....
United States Express	73	....	....	....	75¾	....
Canada Southern	116	....	115	....	....	....
Erie	17⅝	....	18	....	....	17⅞
Michigan Central	60	60¼	....	....	....	60⅜
Michigan Southern	65¼	65¼	65¾	65⅝	....	66
Illinois Central	92	92	....	....	....	92
Cleveland & Pittsburg	93	93	....	....	....	93
Chicago & Northwest	43⅝	43⅝	43¾	43⅜	43⅝	44
Do. preferred	65⅝	65⅝	65¾	65¾	65¾	66
Rock Island	100	99¾	100	....	100½	100⅝
St. Paul common	....	44¾	45	....	....	45¾
Do. preferred	....	77½	....	....	....	77⅞
Wabash, common	....	5⅝	5⅝	....	....	5⅝
Fort Wayne	....	127½	....	....	....	128
Ohio and Mississippi	21⅜	21⅜	21½	21⅜	21½	22
Union Pacific	68⅞	....	....	....	....	69
Harlem	....	145	....	....	144½	....
Hannibal and St. Joe	....	18	....	....	....	....
Iron Mountain	....	24	....	24	....	....
C., C. & I. Central	....	5¼	....	5	....	5⅛
Delaware & Lackawanna	....	....	....	....	....	123
Atlantic & Pac	10½	....	....	....	....	....

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	....	....	55¾
Reading	....	....	51½
United Co's of N. J	140	....	141
Oil Creek	....	....	14½
Lehigh Valley	....	....	63¾
Allegheny Valley	50	....	31
P., C. & St. L., m. b	....	85¼	85¼
Northern Pacific bonds	22	....	22¾

(By Associated Press.)

Gold Closed at 113⅞.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, February 17.—Money closed at 3@4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper scarce at 4½@6 per cent. Customs receipts $250,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $612,000. Clearings $51,000,000. Sterling 486@490.

Gold declined from 113⅝ to 113¼, advanced to 113¾ and closed at 113¼. Carrying rates 1 to 4 per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds firm at full prices. Railroad bonds moderately active. State securities steady. Stocks were weak and lower in early dealings, but subsequently improved. In the last hour the market was strong, and near the close, when there was a slight decline. The most active stocks to-day were Western Union Telegraph, which sold at 74⅛, Pacific Mail, were on the whole weak; Lake Shore, which was strong in the afternoon; St. Paul and Northwestern, which were comparatively strong throughout. Transactions 154,000 shares, of which 15,000 were Pacific Mail, 5,500 Western Union, 11,000 Northwestern, 20,000 St. Paul, 11,000 Erie, 6,000 Lake Shore and 6,000 Ohio and Mississippi. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
W. U. Telegraph	73¾	Toledo & Wabash	5½
Pacific Mail	33⅞	Do. preferred	9¾
Adams Express	109	Fort Wayne	10½
Wells-Fargo	81	Terre Haute	5
American Ex	64	Do. preferred	22
U. S. Express	74½	Chicago & Alton	92
New York Central	115	Do. preferred	106
Erie	17⅝	Ohio & Mississippi	21⅞
Do. preferred	35	Indiana Coal	5¾
Harlem	142	Burling'n & Qu'cy	120
Do. preferred	150	Hannibal & St. Joe	18¾
Mich. Central	60½	Delaware & Lack	120½
Lake Shore	64	Atlantic & P. Tel	19
Illinois Central	92	Union Pacific	68¾
Clev. & Pitts	93½	Central Pac. bonds	108½
Northwestern	43⅝	Union Pac. bonds	105¼
Do. preferred	65¾	Do. land grants	102¾
N. J. Central	108½	Mariposa	8¾
Rock Island	100¼	Do. preferred	18¾
St. Paul	45⅜	Panama	131
Do. preferred	79¾	Missouri Pacific	12¾
GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	123¾	New 5's	115⅞
5-20's, 1865	118	10-40's registered	....
5-20's, 1865, new	119⅛	10-40's coupons	121
5-20's, 1867, coupons	122¾	Currency 6's	125¾
5-20's, 1868	123¾		
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee, old	43	Virginia, old	38
Tennessee, new	41¾	Missouri 6's	102¼
Virginia, new	36		

LONDON, February 17, 5 P. M.—The bullion in the Bank of England increased £370,000 the past week. The proportion of reserve to liabilities is 42⅝ per cent. Consols for money 94 1-16; for account 94⅜. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 105⅝; do 1867, 106⅝; 10-40's, 105¾; new 5's, 106¼. Railroad securities—New York Central 104; Erie 15¾; do preferred 31.

PARIS, February 17.—The specie in the Bank of France increased 18,470,96. Francs the past week. Rentes 67 francs 62½ centimes.

FRANKFORT, February 17.—United States bonds—New 5's 101½.

NEW ORLEANS, February 17.—Gold 113¼. Sight ¼ premium. Sterling—Bank 552½@555½.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 17, 1876.

The general market was moving along steadily, presenting but few changes. Buyers are disposed to act cautiously, purchasing merely sufficient to meet the current wants. This, however, is nothing new, and has been the situation for some days. One thing that effects trade is the bad condition of the country roads, the soft mild winter having made them almost impassible at certain points; they are about equal to some of our streets.

Produce is coming in more freely and sales are increasing. Bacon—The firmness we have before noted has been fully maintained; holders of round lots are well pleased. The tendency is to a further advance. Grain—The market could not be called an active one; an improvement, however, is looked for in the early future. Potatoes—The market is fairly drugged, prices are the lowest that have ruled for years.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last:

Flour, bbls	1,150
Corn, bush	830
Barley, bush	4,300
Butter, pkgs	65
Potatoes, bush	2,275
Apples, bbls	43
Wheat, bush	3,300
Oats, bush	4,200
Hay, bales	65

The quotations given in the following are parties prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The movement in grain could not be called an active one; buyers were not as a general thing anxious to invest. So far as values are concerned we have no particular change to record. The following are the rates current for the various descriptions, viz.: Wheat—Amber and white, which are very scarce and can only be obtained at few points; amber is firm at $1 30 per bushel; the latter at $1 55@1 60 per bushel. The following are the current rates: Wheat—Michigan white $1 40@1 45; Pennsylvania and Ohio red winter $1 30@1 36, being scarce and in demand; Northwestern red $1 35@1 40; low grades are dull and neglected at $1 15@1 22; rejected do for the mixing description, viz.: No. 2 spring, 90c@$1 10, as to quality and condition, the latter for choice yellow; old shelled in elevator is held at 62@63c. Oats were steady at former quotations. We quote in mixed Pennsylvania and Ohio at 40@41c; white do at 42@44c; Western white 42@44c. Barley—Two-rowed nothing; Canada is held at $1 30@1 35 ₱ bushel; choice spring at $1 18@1 21; common to prime $1 05@1 15. Rye—Car loads are scarce at $1 00. Rye quiet with a sale at 82c, held at 80@85c ₱ bushel. Jobbing sales were made at the usual advance.

FLOUR—The market was a quiet one. Beyond the demand for local purposes, there was nothing doing. The receipts about keep pace with the wants of the trade. The rates current are from mills: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 25 ₱ bbl; No. 1 amber, do $7 25; red wheat flour $6 75@7 00; in sacks 25c off ₱ bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers for standard brands of flours are steady as follows: Choice brands of winter wheat flour $7 00@7 75; white wheat $7 50@7 75; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 00@6 25; Minnesota $6 50@7 75; fancy St. Louis $8 25@8 50; choice patents $8 50@9 00; red winter wheat flour is active at $6 00@6 25; graham flour $5 50@6 75; self raising flour, in 6 ₱ packages, $1 25 ₱ dozen; 12 packages; cornmeal 85c per bushel; oatmeal $6 25 ₱ bbl; kegs $3 50. Rye flour $5 00@5 25 ₱ bbl. Buckwheat flour 2½@3c ₱ ₱.

HAY—As we have before remarked, the market was a dull one, and transactions quite light. Buyers still appear to have faith in the present prices being maintained. The selling figures are upland prairie $10 00@13 00 ₱ ton. Timothy $18 00@18 00, as to quality. Oil meal $40 00@43 00 ₱ ton.

Country Produce.

APPLES—As noted for some days, the market has ruled firm with a good jobbing demand. Stocks have been very much reduced. The rates for good, sound apples are $3 50@4 00@4 50 per barrel. Mixed lots have no fixed value and prices uncertain.

APPLE BUTTER—We can report a steady trade demand for choice descriptions with sales in a regular way at 60@70c per gallon.

BEANS—We have to report a very dull market, with more sellers than buyers. We quote small white navy at $1 20@1 30 per bushel; mixed are too uncertain to quote.

BUCKWHEAT—The demand was only moderate and sales were limited. We quote at 30@35c per pound.

BUTTER—The demand for choice roll has been well maintained, all good parcels offered finding purchasers. Medium and common grades are dull, with more sellers than buyers. We quote the former at 27@28c per ₱, with an occasional fancy lot at 30c per ₱, but the latter description prices are very uncertain.

CIDER—The receipts have been light. The market, however, is without any quotable change. We quote nominally at $6 00@7 00 as to quality and size of barrel.

CHEESE—The market was not an active one. Prices are nominal at $11 00@12 00 per barrel, as per quality and condition.

CRANBERRIES—As we have before remarked, the market was firm with a good jobbing demand. We continue to quote choice Ohio factory 12½@14c; New York do 14@14½c; Ohio Sweitzer 13½@14c; Lieberger 14@15c ₱ ₱, as to quality.

DRIED FRUITS—We have to report a dull market, with more sellers than buyers. Apples—Prime bright quarters 9@9½c; sliced, 10@11c. Peaches—Halves 12@13c; peeled 19@21c. Blackberries 16c. Huckleberries 15@20c. Raspberries 30@33c. Cherries, pitted, 25@28c; unpitted 8@9c per ₱.

EGGS—The market exhibited more firmness. The fact is, at present prices, eggs are about as cheap an article of meat as can be purchased. We quote by the quantity 15@16c ₱ dozen.

HOMINY—The supply exceeds the demand. We quote nominally at $3 75@4 00 ₱ barrel.

HONEY—New domestic honey is steady at 25@28c ₱ ₱. California is quoted at 30c ₱ ₱.

LARD—The English demand for prime is not now only. Prices are quite depressed. Choice leaf is held at 12½c ₱ ₱, while medium have no fixed value. Prices are very uncertain.

MINCE MEAT—The season is about over. Prices are very much unsettled.

NUTS—The demand was fair and sales regular. The current rates are as follows: Peanuts are in fair request at easy prices; prime white Tennessee nuts rule at 6@6½c, according to quality; Virginia 7½@8c; shellbarks are easy at $1 25@1 50 ₱ bushel; walnuts depressed at 3@4c ₱ bushel; hazel nuts $3 50@4 00 per bushel.

POTATOES—The market continues in a very demoralized condition, with a large line of sellers but not so many buyers. The result was a decidedly unsatisfactory market. We quote much blows nominally at 40@45c; choice to sell out in round lots at 35@37c; from store, in a jobbing way, at 45@50c. Carload lots unchanged.

POULTRY—The weather being rather warm for handling the sales have been light. Prices are too unsettled to quote with any exactness. We quote live chickens by the coop, 45@50c per pair.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers, city rendered, 9½@10c ₱ ₱; country do 8½@8c ₱ ₱.

VEGETABLES—Onions are in better stock and slow. We quote at $1 25@1 50 ₱ barrel. Dried green peas are quoted at 6@7c ₱ ₱ bushel.

Turnips 75@80c ₱ bushel. Beets 45@50c ₱ bushel. Parsnips 60@70c ₱ bushel.

ALES—In good supply. We quote city brands $8 00 ₱ barrel to the trade, and $9 00 to the country; XX ale $10 00; India ale $11 00; half-barrel in proportion.

SEEDS—The market has stiffened up considerably. Clover is now quoted from store $9 00@9 50 ₱ bushel; timothy not so firm; we quote nominally $2 60@2 80.

DRESSED HOGS—The season is drawing to a close. We hear of an occasional sale at 8@8½c ₱ ₱.

RAGS—Market steady. We note sales in a regular way at 2c for good washed.

TOBACCO—Market well supplied. We quote country stock 15@20c ₱ gallon; best city make No. 2) at 15c ₱ gallon with pay for barrels.

SUGAR—The market has not ruled very active. The current rates are: Soda ash, common, 3@3½c; refined ice 3½@3¾c; refined pearl 7½c; potash 7c; manganese 6½c; arsenic 5@5½c; flour spar 2@2½c ₱ ₱.

Provisions.

The firmness we noted in our last has been maintained, holders being well pleased with the outlook. The current rates are as follows:

Hams, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	14½	Lard, Prime Leaf in ½ bbls., ₱ ₱	14
Shoulders, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	10½	Lard, Prime Leaf in buckets, ₱ ₱	14½
Breakfast Bacon, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	14½	Lard, Refined in 5 lb cadlies, ₱ ₱	16½
Dried Beef, Extra Sugar Cured	15	Lard, Refined in 5 lb caddies, ₱ ₱	16½
Beef Tongues, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	6 50	Lard, Refined in 3 lb pails, ₱ ₱	17
Bacon Shoulders, ₱ ₱	9½	Lard, Refined in 5 lb pails, ₱ ₱	16½
Bacon, Short Rib Sides, ₱ ₱	13	Lard Oil, Extra Winter Strained, ₱ gal	67
Bacon, Clear Rib Sides, ₱ ₱	13½	Lard Oil, Miner's Winter Strained, ₱ gal	67
Mess Pork, about 25 pieces in bbl., ₱ bbl	22 50	Carbon Oil, Standard White, ₱ gal	13
Short Cut Mess Pork, about 50 pieces in bbl., ₱ bbl	22 50	Cheese, Prime New York	14
Lard, Prime in tierces, ₱ ₱	13½	Goshen, ₱ ₱	16
		Pigs' Feet, kegs, ₱ 2 00	
		Pigs' Feet, ½ bbl, ₱ 4 25	
		Pigs' Feet, 1 bbl	9 00

Groceries.

The market could not be called an active one, but still for certain kinds there was a slight improvement without any change in values. The rates are as follows:

Green Coffees.	₱ ₱.	Sugars.	₱ ₱.
Fancy Rio	c	Standard A	10½c
Choice Rio	23 c	Standard B	10¼c
Prime Rio	22 c	Do. extra C	10 c
Good Rio	21 c	Extra C, yel	9½@9¾c
Ordinary Rio	20 c	C, yellow	8¾c
Java	32 c	Franklin, B	9¼c
Roasted Coffees.		Cut Loaf	12 c
Rio, in papers	26 @27 c	Crushed	11¼c
Java, in papers	30 @32 c	Powdered	11¼c
Rio, in bulk	23¼@26¼c	Granulated	11 c
Java, in papers	34 c	Good fair N. O	8 c
Java, in bulk	32½c	Fully fair	8¼c
Teas.		Prime do	8¾c
Young Hyson	45c@$1 00	Choice do	9 c
Gunpowder	60@1 10	White clarified do	10 c
Imperial	50@ 90	Molasses.	₱ gall.
Japan	40@ 75	Strly ch. N. O	50@55c
Oolong	25@ 85	Prime	35@35c
Assorted	1 00	Good	30c
Souchong	35@ 75	Syrups.	
Starch.	₱ ₱.	Ex. white drips	70c
Pearl	4½@5½c	Sugar drips	60@65c
Silver glass	9½c	Lower grades	35@50c
Corn	10½c	Spices.	
Rice.		Cloves	55 c
Choice Car'la	7¼@8 c	Allspice	17 c
Patna	6@8 c	Cassia	32@35 c
Rangoon	7 c	Nutmegs	@1 25
Louisiana	6½@7 c	Pepper	19@20 c
Soda.		Soaps.	
Bi-carb, in kegs	5 c	Irish soap, ₱ box	@4 25
Bi-carb, in 10-lb pkgs	5½c	S. S. Star, ₱ box	5 75
Bi-carb, in 1-paper	7 c	Family, ₱ box	3 75
Candles.			
Star, full weight	17½c		
Stearine	13½c		
Mould	11@12 c		

TOBACCO—The current rates are as follows:

Manufactured—		Six Twist	43@50c
Spun roll	60@65c	Smoking—Granulated	59@75c
Black Navy	50@58c	Leaf Tobaccos.	
Black Navy	58@65c	Western leaf—	
Louisville Navy	60@65c	Inferior	5½@6c
Louisville Cav	65@70c	Fancy	11@12c
Virginia Navy	53@55c	West'n leaf—lugs	9@12c
Virginia Tens	53@55c	Ohio seed wrap	18@25c
Virginia Cav	53@55c	Ohio seed filler	9@12c
Double Thick	60@65c	Conn. (choice)	
Flounders	60@65c	wrapper	60@70c
Bright pounds	63c@$1	Conn. filler	12@15c
Black Quarters	53@55c	Havana wrap*	$1 25@2 50
Rough & Ready	65@85c	Havana fillers*	60@$1 25
Fine Cut plugs	70@80c	Cigars—	
Fine Cut	55@90c	Penn'a. seed	@15@ 20
Cut and Dry	32@42c	Connecticut	35@ 50
Scotch Snuff	55@75c	Seed & Havana	30@ 35
Black Snuff	60@65c	Havana	60@150

General Merchandise.

LUMBER.

The market continues an abundant supply. Prices for some time have ruled low. The present rates are as follows:

Flooring, No. 1 per M	$25 00
Flooring, No. 2	21 00
Best No. 1 15-inch shingles	4 75
Molded weatherboarding per M	20 00
Common surfaced boards	20 00
Barn boards	20 00
Sheeting boards	20 00

Moldings ½c per inch square per running foot.

Inside shutters, inch thick, 20c per square foot.

Window frames and sash from $2 50 to $3 50 per window.

Four panned doors from $2 50 to $3 50 each.

WINDOW GLASS.

The following is a new list that has just been issued by our manufacturers. As will be observed the rates are materially lower than the old one, and ought to increase our glass trade largely. The discounts have also been reduced accordingly. We now quote at 10c and 10c off Pittsburgh list.

PER BOX OF FIFTY FEET.—SINGLE STRENGTH.

24 Quality.	1st Quality.	Dbl. st'th
6 by 8 to 7 by 9	$ 3 75	$ 6 50
7 by 10 to 8 by 10	$ 3 75	7 00
8 by 11 to 10 by 12	4 00	7 25
8 by 14 to 10 by 15	4 25	7 75
8 by 16 to 12 by 15	4 75	8 25
12 by 18 to 14 by 20		9 00
15 by 20 to 18 by 22		9 50
15 by 24 to 20 by 30		10 50
15 by 30 to 24 by 30		11 25
26 by 28 to 24 by 36		12 00
26 by 30 to 26 by 44		14 00
26 by 46 to 30 by 50		15 00
30 by 52 to 30 by 54		16 00
30 by 56 to 34 by 54		17 00
34 by 56 to 33 by 60		19 00
30 by 62 to 30 by 66		22 50

All size over 52 inches in length, and not making 84 united inches, will be charged in 84 united inches bracket.

CORDAGE AND ROPE—The demand was fair. Prices are as follows:

MANILLA ROPE.	Per pound.
½ inch diameter and upward	14½c
⅜ inch diameter and upward	15½c
⅜ and 5-16 inch diameter	15½c
Tarred rope and lath yarn	14½c
Hay, stave and leather twine	13½c
OIL WELL DRILLING CABLES.	
Hawser laid	14½c
Hawser laid bolt rope yarns	16½c
Sand pump rope	14½c
SISAL ROPE.	
½ inch diameter and upward	11½c
⅜ inch diameter	12½c
½ and 5-16 inch diameter	12½c
Hay twine	12½c
Tarred lath twine	11½c
NEW ZEALAND ROPE.	
½ inch diameter and upward	11½c
⅜ inch diameter	12½c
½ and 5-16 inch diameter	12½c
Hay twine	12½c
Tarred lath twine	11½c

CANNED GOODS.

The following are the current rates:

2 ₱ Bartlett pears	2 00	2 ₱ blackberries	@2 50
2 ₱ common pears	2 00	2 ₱ blueberries	2 00
2 ₱ pine apple	2 00	2 ₱ white cherries	2 75
2 ₱ quinces	2 00	2 ₱ red cherries	2 00
2 ₱ raspberries	2 75	2 ₱ gooseberries	1 50
2 ₱ strawberries	2 00	2 ₱ green gages	1 50
2 ₱ Lima beans	2 00	2 ₱ egg plums	3 00
2 ₱ string beans	1 50	2 ₱ damson plums	2 50
2 ₱ yellow's corn	2 25	2 ₱ peaches	1 75
2 ₱ peas	2 25	3 ₱ peaches	2 25
2 ₱ tomatoes	1 65	3 ₱ pie peaches	1 60

FOREIGN FRUITS—Are in fair demand. Prices, however, are without change. We quote as follows: Raisins—Layers, new, ₱ box, $2 25; London layers $4 50; Valentias, new, 11¼@12c ₱ ₱; Sultanas 18c. Dates 8½@9c ₱ ₱. Currants 8½c. Citron 28c. Prunes 7½@8½c. Almonds—Languedoc soft-shelled 38c; do Princess 37c; do Jordan 56c; do Ivica 24c. Walnuts—Naples 26c; Marbot 17c; Sicily filberts 15c. Smyrna figs 18@20c. Brazil nuts 10c. Macaroni 15@18c. Tapioca 10c. Lemons—Messina, ₱ box, $7 00. Cocoanuts $7 00 per hundred.

WOODEN WARE—The following are the present rates:

No. 1 tubs ₱ dozen	$7 5	Clothes pins ₱ box	50
No. 2 tubs ₱ dozen	6 5	Patent spring do	75
No. 3 tubs ₱ dozen	4 5	Toothpicks ₱ M	1 00
Chop pails ₱ dozen	2	Carpet sweepers	2 75
Chop pails ₱ dozen	1 9	Shoe pegs ₱ box	1
Glove washboard ₱ dozen (patented)	2 7	Bed cords ₱ dozen	1
I. X. L. washboards ₱ dozen	2 2	Mop sticks ₱ dozen	1
Iron City washboards ₱ dozen	1 7	Wash boards ₱ dozen	2

BROOMS—The following are the current rates of Union brooms:

Patent screw ferule carpet	$	Carpet	4 2
No. 4 extra parlor		Parlor	4 0
No. 4 carpet		Hotel	3 9
No. 3 carpet		Shop	3 6
No. 6 hurl, 4-string, first quality		Shop	3 5
No. 5 hurl, 3-string, first quality		Shop	3 2
No. 4 hurl, 3-string, first quality		Shop	2 9
No. 3 hurl, 2-string, first quality		Shop	2 2
No. 2 hurl, 2-string, first quality		Shop	1 9
No. 4 stock braid, 3-string			2 7
No. 5 varnished handles, hurl			2 7
No. 4 varnished handles, hurl			2 5
No. 2 common			2 0
No. 3 shakers			2 0
Toy brooms			1 25@1 5
Toy whisk brooms			1 25@1 7

HIDES—Dealers report a dull market. The prospect, however, for an early improvement is favorable.

Green salted cows	7@ 7½c
Green salted steers, light	8@ 8½c
Green salted steers, heavy	9@ 9½c
Green salted calf	11@12c
Green butcher cows	6 c
Green butcher steers, light	7 c
Green butcher steers, heavy	8 c
Green butcher calf	10 c

LEATHER—We have nothing new to report in regard to this article. The demand is slowly improving, whilst activity is looked for before the close of the present month. As will be seen by the following, prices continue to rule low. We quote as follows:

Oak sole, city	33@	36c	
Red sole, B. A. heavy and mid	30@	32c	
Red sole, Oronoco	29@	31c	
Red sole, good dgd	25@	28c	
Oak, rough	37@	40c	
Harness, city oak	32@	34c	
Harness, country	32@	34c	
Harness, No. 2 and common	29@	31c	
Fair skirting	40@	43c	
Fair bridle, ₱ doz	60 @70	00	
Belt leather	40@	46c	
Finished calf	90@	1 25	
Finished upper, ₱ foot	18@	22c	
Finished kips	50@	90c	

Drugs and Chemicals.

DRUGS—There has been a fair jobbing business in drugs since our last report. The following revised list of quotations is furnished by Harris & Ewing, wholesale druggists, Liberty street:

Acid.		*Magcal.* ₱	80 @1 00
Acetic	12 @ 18	Carb	30 @ 35
Citric	1 40 @1 12	Mans S ₱	30 @ 35
Oxalic	17 @ 20	Morph sulp	4 40 @ 4 60
Sulphuric	3 @ 4	Nitrat	15 @ 20
Tartaric	54 @ 59	*Oil.*	
Alcohol, gal	2 40 @2 50	Bergamot	3 50 @ 3 70
Aloes.		Bergamot	5 25 @ 5 75
Aloes	16 @ 20	Castor	16 @ 18
Socot	63 @ 75	Cinnam	2 00 @ 2 20
Cam Carb	8 @ 12	Citronella	75 @ 1 00
Aqua	8 @ 12	Cod liv, gal	2 00 @ 2 75
Amonia	50 @ 60	Croton	2 00 @ 2 25
Ashes.		Linseed, raw	60 @ 65
Soda	5 @ 6	Linseed, boil	63 @ 68
Pot Caps	90 @ 95	Neats F, gal	90 @ 1 00
Bayrum, gal	75 @ 4 00	Olive, gal	1 75 @ 2 00
Bark.		Peppermint	2 00 @10 00
Cassia	25 @ 28	pints, doz	2 25 @ 3 00
Cinch red	20 @ 25	Origan	1 00 @ 1 25
" pale	70 @ 80	Pepper's	5 00 @ 5 50
Elm	10 @ 12	Rosemary	5 00 @ 5 50
Black Lead.		Sassafras	85 @ 90
Superfine	4 @ 6	Spearm	2 00 @ 2 25
East Ind	11 @ 12	Tanners, gal	58 @ 64
Ground	8 @ 10	Wintergr	2 00 @ 2 25
Blue mass	60 @ 70	Wintg'n, gal	4 00 @ 4 25
Blue vitr	11 @ 14	Worm seed	2 00 @ 2 25
Bitter red	14 @ 17	Olives, gal	1 75 @ 4 00
Brim roll	8 @ 10	*Glass.*	
Brim pulv	6 @ 8	Window	21 @ 22
Calomel	1 25 @ 1 35	Chlorate	35 @ 40
Camphor	2 @ 2 10	Iodide	3 25 @ 3 50
Camp ref	20 @ 24	Potty	8 @ 12
Cantha'r	1 75 @ 2 00	Prussiate	30 @ 35
Cham Germ	40 @ 50	Rosin	bbl 4 00 @ 4 50
Chalk	3 @ 5	*Gums.*	
Chlorof'm	1 00 @1 15	Gentian	8 @ 12
Cloves	40 @ 45	Ginger Ejam	60 @ 65
Cochineal	75 @ 85	" Jamaca	18 @ 20
Cotton, case	4 @ 5	Myrrh	35 @ 38
Copperas	3 @ 4	Opium	11 @ 12
Copperas, bbls

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank PITTSBURGH, PA., February 17, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M.	30.078	24	86	W.	Brisk.	Clear'w
2 P. M.	30.103	38	68	W.	Fresh.	Clear'w
9 P. M.	30.149	29	78	W.	Fresh.	Cloudy

Mean barometer...30.120 Highest thermom....39
Mean thermom..... 27 Lowest thermom....23
Rainfall..... .02

Dr. Hunter

Devotes special attention to diseases of the throat, lungs and ears. Office, No. 178 Fourth avenue, above Grant street. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M. FMWF

Do You wish to go to Virginia?

Call at Central Hotel and talk with Captain Chaffin, of Chaffin Staples & Co., Richmond, Va. Free circular about advantages of Virginia.

Robbed of Watch and Money.

John Good complained at the Mayor's office yesterday that he had been robbed of eighty dollars and his watch at a house of ill-fame on Water street, near the Baltimore and Ohio Railway Depot. Chief Hartzell organized a raid on the establishment, and the detectives succeeded in capturing the mistress of the house and six of the female inmates, the charge being based on the provisions of the ordinance. A hearing will be had to-day.

The Gas Well at Allegheny Poor Farm.

The conference of the committees of the Allegheny Board of Poor Directors and underwriters, at the Poor Farm yesterday resulted in an agreement that the frame building known as the "Pump House" be removed, and that a three sided brick dead wall, extending not less than five feet higher than the roof of the building known as the "Boiler House," using the rear wall of the said Boiler House. This agreement will be reported to the Board at the next regular meeting.

Regulations for Lent.

In the *Catholic* this week Rev. Father Hickey, administrator of this Diocese, issues a circular prescribing the rules and regulations for Lent, which commences on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, and ends on Easter Sunday, April 8th, next—forty days of fasting and prayer. All the faithful who have completed their twenty-first year, unless specially dispensed for cause, are bound to observe the rules of fasting, etc. The time for approaching Easter Communion will date from the first Sunday of Lent to the second Sunday after Easter.

The Fire at Mansfield.

In our report of the fire at Mansfield on Monday night it was stated that a family who had recently moved from the house where the fire originated was suspected. As Mr. William McCausland was a recent occupant, it is due him to say no suspicion whatever attaches to him in the neighborhood. He is an honest and reputable citizen, and, it is said, is highly spoken of by striking miners. Mr. McCausland was not within a hundred miles of the place on the night in question.

Retirement of Dr. Gross from Councils.

With the close of the present year Dr. A. H. Gross, of the Twentieth ward, will retire from the City Councils. Dr. Gross, on account of failing health, accepted the advice of friends, and decided to relinquish the toilsome and thankless duties at the close of his present term, therefore, declined a re-election on Tuesday last. Dr. Gross has for a number of years most acceptably filled the position of Presiding Officer of the Select Branch, and besides possessing the esteem of his associates, has won and maintained the good opinion of citizens generally. He has given much time and labor to the city's interests, and will retire with the good wishes of all who know him.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

Nathan Gossett, bankrupt, of Allegheny. The creditors were directed to meet on the 1st prox., to consider a proposition for settlement.

George and John Reiseck, bankrupts, Pittsburgh. A similar meeting was called, to meet on the 2d prox.

Felson & B. F. Marshall, bankrupts, Luzerne county. The hearing on the rule granted on the 3d inst. was continued until the 9th prox.

Fifth Avenue Bank, Pittsburgh, vs. Samuel Sloss. The hearing of the exceptions to the confirmation of the Register's report continued to the 18th inst.

Francis Ardary, bankrupt, this city, the case was dismissed on bankrupt's petition.

Hook & Wise, bankrupts, Greene county. On motion, injunction ordered to issue against Henry C. Sayres.

On motion of T. H. Baird, Esq., P. R. Celter, Esq., of Port Allegheny, McKean county, was qualified and admitted to practice in this Court.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Stowe and Collier.

Aldine Company, of New York, vs. J. R. Foster & Co.; action on an account. Owing to the sickness of one of the jurors, this case, on trial, was adjourned until to-morrow morning.

Howland *et al.*, vs. John Stewart, action for damages for alleged injury to plaintiff's property by reason of water coming from an ice pond on defendants land. On trial.

National Trust Company, for use vs. John C. Davis; action on book account. Verdict for plaintiff for $308 31.

Henry Snell et al. vs Evan Jones; action for work and labor done in building a stone wall. On trial.

Woods vs. Bath; habeas corpus for the son of Mrs. Bath, deceased, by her first husband, Woods. For the present the Court will turn the stepfather, Bath, to retain possession of the child.

R. B. Petty vs. John Meyer and Leonard Brucker. Rule allowed to show cause why judgment of non suit should not be stricken off.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

The Central Mutual Building and Loan Association, of Allegheny City, vs. R. M. Gray, Treasurer and Con. Dietrick; action to recover on the bond of the Treasurer, Mr. Dietrick being surety. On trial.

Mr. H. Garlick and H. D. Seizer, for plaintiffs; Messrs. Garlick & Seizer, vs. James Brownlee. On trial.

James G. Holliday vs. Herman Ross. Verdict for plaintiff for $100.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Bank of Pittsburgh vs. Milligan, Hershberg & Co.; Kitchen vs. Boyle; Stein for use vs. Lower St. Clair township; Pittsburgh Book and News Co. vs. Childs; Fredericks vs. Loy *et al.*; Heyl vs. Beyer; Pittsburgh Gas Co. vs. School Directors of the Eighth ward; McCharthy vs. Shannon; Sheppard, for use, vs. Pittsburgh Nut Coal and Coke Co.; Warner, Rhodes & Co. vs. Thompson; New vs. Lycoming Fire Insurance Company; Kuhn vs. Walter & Evans, executors, Rice & Jones.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Action Upon the Appropriation Ordinance in Select Branch—A Legal Majority to Pass Wanting.

The Select Branch of City Councils met yesterday afternoon for the purpose of acting upon the ordinance levying taxes, assessing water rents and fixing the several appropriations for the year.

In the absence of Dr. Gross, Mr. David Aiken was called to the chair.

Mr. Shipton, from the Finance Committee, presented the ordinance as published in these columns yesterday, and it was read by the clerk.

On motion of Mr. O'Neill the items were taken up seriatim, and all the sections providing for the tax levy, water assessment, etc., were adopted.

The different appropriations were next taken up, and Mr. Duff moved to fix the appropriation for the Fire Department at $115,000.

A discussion followed, after which the motion of Mr. Duff was lost, and the amount was fixed at $130,000.

Mr. Holliday objected to the street appropriation of $100,000, as a repaving fund of $60,000 had been set aside to pave Wood street, Fifth avenue and Market street, and that amount would not be nearly sufficient. He was, however, in favor of transferring $10,000 from the street to the repaving fund.

A lengthy discussion was had on this also, after which the amount was fixed at $100,000 as recommended.

Mr. Gregor Fox moved to fix the appropriation of the Board of Health at $5,000 instead of $8,000.

Dr. Kerr stated that the appropriation last year was $18,000 and the list of expenses absolutely necessary for this year would reach $14,000. If the city established a Board of Health it should be supplied with sufficient funds to make the Board efficient, and if she could not do that then it would be better to abolish the Board altogether. He moved to amend by fixing it at $14,000.

After further discussion both amendments were lost and $8,000 was approved.

The remaining appropriations were adopted as a whole, and the ordinance was put on its final passage and failed for want of a legal majority, the vote standing, yeas 20, nays 7. Holliday is the record of yeas.

Mr. Littell, before the announcement of the result, changed his vote from aye to nay, so that he could move a reconsideration at next meeting.

YEAS—Messrs. Ahl, Aiken, Atkinson, Brown, Dannels, Darlington, Epping, Evans, Felker, Fox, Froehlich, Geiger, Holliday, Hunter, Lapan, Meyer, Moore, Murray, McCandless, McClurg, McGimpsey, McKinley, Negley, Reiman, Rodgers, Rolfe, Shipton, Taylor and Weidon—20.

NAYS—Messrs. Duff, Kerr, Littell, O'Neil, Powers, Sawyer and Sorg—7.

Council then adjourned to meet in special session on Monday next to further consider this question.

THE REFORM SCHOOL

THE INVESTIGATION RESUMED.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE HOUSE.

DOCTOR DALY'S TESTIMONY.

Extraordinary Disregard of the Physician's Orders—The Sick Carefully Nursed, but no Attention Paid to Sanitary Recommendations—The Superintendent's Negligence—A Favorable Report that was Made too Soon, and an Explanation Thereof—Something About the Visit of the Special Committee of the Medical Society, Etc., Etc.

Three of the Legislative Investigating Committee, Messrs. Finley, Billingsley and Yerkes arrived from Harrisburg yesterday morning, and with Mr. Thornton, who had not returned to the capital, proceeded to the office of the Reform School, at the corner of Fourth avenue and Market street, for the purpose of resuming the investigation, which was adjourned last Friday.

Mr. Plummer, Chairman of the Committee, was expected to arrive last evening.

President Bigham and some eight or ten other members of the Board of Managers were present, together with Rev. Mr. Gill, Dr. Daly and the reporters of the press.

The investigation was announced to commence at eleven o'clock, and a few moments after that hour Mr. Thornton took the chair and announced the readiness of the committee to proceed.

DR. DALY'S TESTIMONY.

Dr. Daly stated that he had no written statement, but could answer any question pertaining to sanitary matters. He testified in substance as follows, in reply to Mr. Gill's inquiries:

I have been physician at the school for seven years, during which time the general health of the school was good; the exceptions to this general rule were the several diseases that broke out at different times; the yearly mortality rate was about five per cent. (The doctor here detailed the several outbreaks which occurred under his administration, but there was nothing remarkable up until the endemic of the winter of 1874-75. Coming down to the spring of 1876, the doctor continued):

To Mr. Gill—The officers' apartments in the main building, were kept in very nice order; the basements were dusted and swept, and ventilated and heated. I found the boys' department always badly heated; the temperature would go below freezing, and was kept at 60° by the boys' bedside in cold spells of weather; the bed clothing was scarcely sufficient.

The committee appointed to carry out my instruction went down to Mr. Avery; but it was not done, in what order, or in what time. I imagine it was Avery's duty to see that my orders were carried out immediately; and there was a delay of a month, and in some instances months afterward; as a last resort I thought I would make another official recommendation. This was during the months of January and February, 1875, that my instructions had all been carried out: I had been led to believe so, but find I occupied my ground too soon; when I went down there in April, 1875, I saw boys at work whitewashing, and was certain the good work had begun; twenty-four hours after I was there the whitewashing was discontinued, a stop (at the third landing from the top, on the boys' side), and was not resumed for nine months; in October, 1875, not a brush had been lifted, as I find in my record.

To Mr. Thornton—I have spoken to some of the managers of the state of affairs, but they assured me that Mr. Avery had attended to everything. I cannot tell how often they went through the school; I have met them in the hallways and exchanged compliments.

To Mr. Gill—Could see the entire board there, at the quarterly meetings, at other times the different committees.

Mr. Thornton—Do you think the Board of Managers or Mr. Avery to blame for this state of affairs.

WOULD RATHER NOT ANSWER.

Doctor D.—Well, sir, I don't like to add a straw to the weight of Mr. Avery's burden. He has been tasked with undue severity.

Mr. Gill—Do you think so?

Doctor D.—I would much prefer being excused from answering this question.

To Mr. Gill—I cannot implicate any one here with any dishonorable action as to my report and its influence on the appropriation; any conversation with Mr. Avery had no such meaning. I thought it was generally desired, and I was anxious myself to make my report as mild as possible, and I did so after due consideration to Mr. Avery.

Mr. Bigham—Did I ever ask you to make it mild?

Dr. D.—No, sir; nor any of the Board: I was anxious that the report should be in a mild one.

To Mr. Thornton—As to damaged meat, I would not consider hams damaged by fire or water as deleterious; don't know positively of the condition of the hams provided; as to the nursing of the children at the school, I have never had any in my charge more skilfully or ably nursed; have visited the upper corridors; the condition of many of them was very bad; thirteen of the rooms were filled with rags, and some others with old trunks.

To Mr. Gill—The food was ample, but there was too much humdrum adherence to our rules; at times the cooking was bad; as to the soup, that I do not remember; at times the flour had been stirred in and served right up; I remember that I complained to Avery the next day; I used to saunter into the dining room and examine into the food; the bread, with the rare exceptions, has been as good as could be bought at any baker's; once in a while there was an accident that affected the bread, but not often; the great fault was a lack of variety, and this was not a fault of the management, but of the kitchen authorities.

To Mr. Fetterman—As a general rule, the Supply Committee furnished good material.

To Mr. Thornton—My visits to the kitchen were not regular, but governed by circumstances; there was too much sameness, as I have said.

RYE AND MOLASSES.

To Mr. Gill—I cannot tell just when rye coffee with molasses sweetning was used; during my connection did not see butter very often.

To Mr. Fetterman—Butter is not bad for health, but is advantageous to a healthy system; fat is necessary.

Mr. Bigham—Was down to the School yesterday; Mr. Avery has taken hold in a mild one. He is an investigation of the managers, and that *he* was not to be investigated; and he is not sure; he is a good deal broken down.

Mr. Thornton—I don't think we are investigating Mr. Avery, but the management of affairs.

Mr. Daly was to be questioned upon the sanitary condition of the School.

To Mr. Gill—Cannot tell whether rye coffee had been used for four or five years previous to April, 1875; it was used then, pure rye.

Mr. Gill wished the Doctor to state what the condition of the school was before the endemic, that differed from former conditions.

Doctor—I hardly know how the conditions differed, except that there was a greater appearance of neglect and decay. The sewer traps were in bad order and swimming in gases, &c. When the epidemic began well water was used; at the hight of the disease it came from the city.

IN A BAD STATE.

At the outbreak of the disease, the rooms were in a *bad* condition; the walls were in bad order, paint scaly, and saturated with poisonous matter escaping from sewer gas. I found the want of air; 1,500 would be the proper amount; the bedsteads were broken down, some were on the floor—I had not place for them; had been so for years; five years anyhow.

To Mr. Thornton—The matter made a protest against beds on the floor; there were more important matters to see to.